THURSDAY
September 11, 2025

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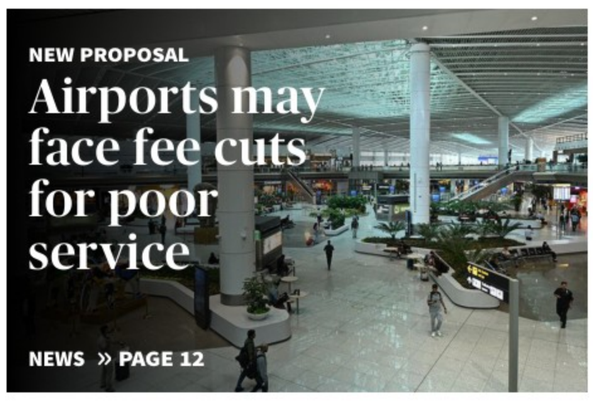
PRESIDENTIAL REFERENCE

CJI flags Governors sitting on Bills for years

NEWS » PAGE 11



NEW PROPOSAL

Airports may face fee cuts for poor service

NEWS » PAGE 12

UKRAINE STRIKE

Poland downs Russian drones in its airspace

WORLD » PAGE 14

RESOLVING DISPUTES

Way forward on Katchatheevu, Palk Strait issues

They can become symbols of cooperation

EDITORIAL » PAGE 8

SMOOTH START

Kuldeep spins a web as India crushes UAE

SPORT » PAGE 15

NEARBY

Up maintenance paid to parents, suggests HC

BENGALURU
The High Court of Karnataka has recommended the Central government to revise the ceiling on the maintenance to be paid to senior citizens by their children or relatives in tune with the present cost of living index. » PAGE 5

Judicial probe sought into Maddur violence

MYSURU
State BJP president B.Y. Vijayendra, on Wednesday, criticised the State government for the clashes that occurred on Sunday during the Ganesha festival procession in Maddur. He sought a judicial inquiry into the matter. » PAGE 6

Trump, Modi signal trade negotiations may resume

Both leaders to speak in the 'upcoming weeks'; the countries are 'still on track to meet the fall deadline for the deal'; Union Minister Goyal says the country is in an active dialogue with the U.S.

Suhasini Haidar
T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

India, U.S. [are] continuing negotiations to address trade barriers. Look forward to speaking with my very good friend Modi... certain of successful conclusion
DONALD TRUMP
U.S. President
Teams working to conclude discussions at the earliest. Looking forward to speaking with Trump... will work together to secure more prosperous future...
NARENDRA MODI
Prime Minister

Trade negotiations between India and the U.S. are set to resume, President Donald Trump has announced, as he and Prime Minister Narendra Modi exchanged cordial messages on social media.

The leaders will speak directly in the "upcoming weeks", which could indicate a restart to relations that were ruptured over the imposition of 50% tariffs on India, demands for India to stop importing Russian oil, and conflicting versions on the Operation Sindoor ceasefire.

While no date has been announced for the formal resumption of talks for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA), government sources said on Wednesday they were "still on track to meet the fall deadline for the deal", referring to the commitment made by both leaders at their White House meet in February.

Mr. Trump was the first to post overnight on Truth Social, four days after he told presspersons at the White House that India-U.S. tensions were "nothing to worry about".

"I am pleased to announce that India and U.S. are continuing negotiations to address Trade Barriers between our two Nations," Mr. Trump said. "I look forward to speaking with my very good friend, Prime Minister Modi, in the upcoming weeks," he added, promising a "successful conclusion" for both countries.

Hours later, Mr. Modi quoted the U.S. President's post on X, saying that he was "confident that trade negotiations will pave the way for unlocking the limitless potential of the India-U.S. partnership".

"Our teams are working to conclude these discussions at the earliest," Mr. Modi said, adding that he too looked forward to the call with Mr. Trump.

"We are in active dialogue with the U.S.," Union Minister Piyush Goyal said.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10

Army takes charge of security in Nepal as uneasy calm returns

Sanjeev Satgainya
KATHMANDU

An uneasy calm returned to Nepal on Wednesday after two days of protests led by Gen-Z members which resulted in the deaths of over two dozen people, even as the Army took control of security and issued restrictive orders and a night-time curfew.

Soldiers fanned out across the capital Kathmandu and other regions of the country from early Wednesday, in accordance with the decision taken by the Army leadership in consultation with President Ram Chandra Poudel late on Tuesday, following K.P. Sharma Oli's resignation as Prime Minister.

After 19 people were killed in police firing on Monday, when Gen Z took to the streets demanding "an end to corruption and misgovernance", the protests turned violent on Tuesday. Demonstrators torched major government buildings. The Ministry of Health and Population, in a statement, updated the death toll to 30, with 1,033 people receiving treatment at various hospitals.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 10
EDITORIAL
» PAGE 8
DATA POINT
» PAGE 9

Indian pilgrims, tourists stranded across Nepal

NEW DELHI
Nearly 600 Indian pilgrims who had gone for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra have been stranded in Taklakot, on the Nepal-China border. A large number of Indian tourists are also stranded in Kathmandu, Pokhara and other locations across the country. » PAGE 10

Civic groups want TTR project scrapped

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Civic groups in the city have moved the National Green Tribunal (NGT) seeking cancellation of the proposed Twin Tunnel Road (TTR) project. The petition alleges that the ₹19,000-crore project violates environmental clearances, is riddled with flaws, and contradicts Bengaluru's mobility plans.

The citizen activists said that during the first hearing on Wednesday, NGT directed that notices be issued to the State government, the State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority, Bangalore Smart Infrastructure Ltd. (B-SMILE), the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and the project consultants.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 2

CPA COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION
सत्यमेव जयते
11th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region Conference
11-13 September 2025 – Bengaluru
INAUGURATION BY Shri Om Birla, Hon'ble Speaker, Lok Sabha
Shri Siddaramaiah, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of Karnataka
Shri D.K. Shivakumar, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Govt. of Karnataka
Shri Basavaraj Horatti, Hon'ble Chairman, Karnataka Legislative Council
Shri U.T. Khader Fareed, Hon'ble Speaker, Karnataka Legislative Assembly
Karnataka One state. Many worlds.
INAUGURATION
Date: 11-09-2025, Thursday, Time: 5-00 PM
Venue: Grand Steps of Vidhana Soudha
In the presence of
Shri R. Ashok
Hon'ble Leader of Opposition
Karnataka Legislative Assembly
Shri Chalavadi Narayanaswamy
Hon'ble Leader of Opposition
Karnataka Legislative Council
Shri H. K. Patil
Hon'ble Minister for Law & Parliamentary Affairs Govt. of Karnataka
Shri Rudrappa Manappa Lamani
Hon'ble Deputy Speaker
Karnataka Legislative Assembly
Shri M.K. Pranesh
Hon'ble Deputy Chairman
Karnataka Legislative Council
CONFERENCE VENUE : Hotel Taj West End, Bengaluru
Conference Highlights
Karnataka for the first time in the history is hosting the 11th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region Conference.
The conference will be held on 12th and 13th September at Hotel Taj West End, Bengaluru.
The Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, Speakers and Deputy Speakers of Legislative Assemblies, Chairman and Deputy Chairman of Legislative Councils from various states, Secretary General of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, Secretaries of various State Legislative Assemblies and Councils, and other Secretary-level officers will participate in the event.
9 special guests from the Commonwealth nations are attending the CPA Conference as Special Invitees

Anisimova 2.0: stronger, faster and resilient

Her roller-coaster career is a story of triumph and determination; the link-up with Carlos Rodriguez during a difficult phase was of immense help and the will to prove critics wrong helped script a dream comeback

Anirudh Velamuri

A year ago, as she worked her way back following a tennis hiatus, Amanda Anisimova, ranked World No. 189, made a quick exit at the Wimbledon Championships after losing in the third round of qualifying. On Monday, Anisimova, following two Grand Slam final appearances, climbed five spots to break into the top-5 for the first time in her career.

Less than two months ago, the World No. 4 battled seasoned opponents and heavy odds to make it to the championship match at Wimbledon, where Iga Swiatek served two bagels in less than an hour to wrap up the contest.

Overwhelmed by the manner and magnitude of defeat, Anisimova, having cried her heart out, promised to live by American author Marianne Williamson's famous line: "Pain can burn you up and destroy you, or burn you up and redeem you."

Elite athletes stand out from the crowd because of their ability to embrace failure, among other things. Pete Sampras, one of the finest players to have graced tennis, often recalled how the defeat to Stefan Edberg at the 1992 US Open shaped his career.

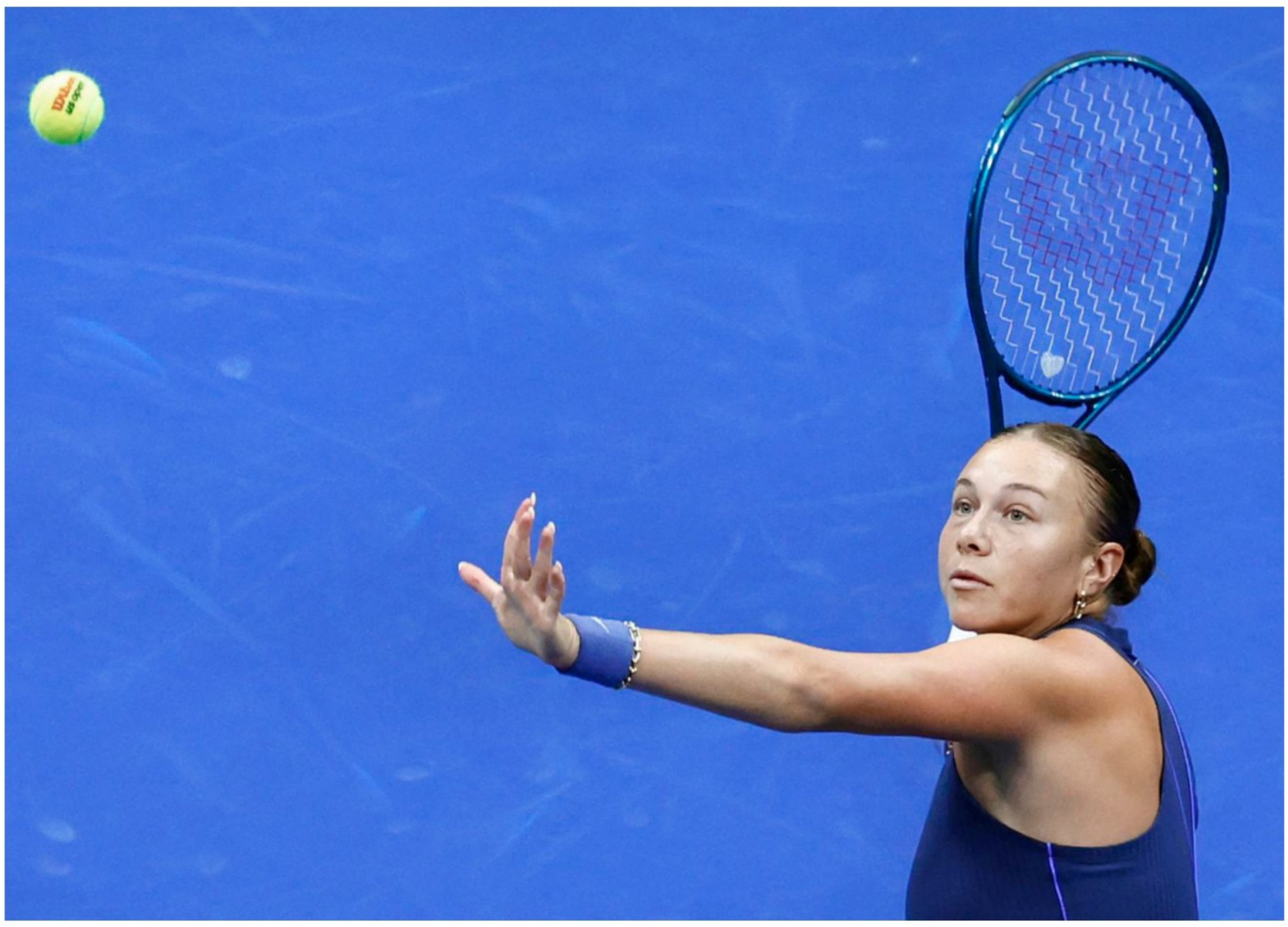
"I knew deep down in my heart that I didn't fight that hard. I didn't really want it enough at that time. And that's when things changed. When I lost the match, it bothered me, it irked me. I feel like I packed it in. I promised myself I would never let that happen again. And so I look at that match as the pivotal one of my career – and it was a loss," he told Graham Bensinger in an interview.

Sampras won 13 Grand Slams after that.

For Anisimova, a rematch with Swiatek in the quarterfinals of the New York Major brought added pressure, with highlights of her drubbing at the hands of the Pole being shown on every screen around her. And she did what mere mortals wouldn't: watch that now infamous Wimbledon final the night before.

Having realised that she was "slow as hell" at SW19, she played without fear on home soil, dictating terms, hitting 23 winners to Swiatek's 13, and maintaining a strong return game, converting four of nine break points.

"I was really trying to go in with the right mindset, especially the last 24 hours, really preparing myself more mentally than physically. I'm really pleased with the way I was able to go into it and perform," Anisimova said after beating Swiatek 6-4, 6-3.



AFP

AFP

THE GIST

- Anisimova has won the second-longest (2 hours and 56 minutes) singles semifinal at the US Open in 2000s, only Henin-Capriati in 2003 (3 hours and 3 minutes) was longer
- At 23 years and 358 days, she is the youngest player to defeat World No. 1s in a singles quarterfinal and semifinal at a Grand Slam since Henin at the Australian Open in 2006
- She is just the fourth American (after Austin, Venus and Serena) to defeat multiple World No. 1s at a single edition of the US Open since 1975
- Anisimova is the youngest player to reach the singles finals at Wimbledon and US Open in a season since Serena and Venus in 2002

Tragedy, and a chance association

After making waves on the junior circuit, Anisimova caught the attention of the tennis world at the 2019 Roland-Garros, where she beat defending champion Simona Halep in the last eight and became the first tennis player born in the 21st century to reach the quarterfinals and semifinals of a Major.

Later, the 24-year-old revealed that she studied Halep for all of five minutes to not only add to her own arsenal but also find a chink in the Romanian's armour.

"Not only was I trying to hit the backhand down the line like her but I also knew when she was going to go backhand down the line... that kind of helped me. I got two advantages out of that after watching her for like five minutes," she told *Tennis Channel* after beating Halep.

While that French Open run pushed her firmly into the spotlight, her world came crashing down when her father, Konstantin Anisimov, died of a heart attack a week before her 18th birthday when she was in New York preparing for her home Slam.

"The only thing that has helped me is just playing tennis and being on court. That's what makes me happy, and I know it would make him happy... so that's the way it is," she said in a press conference later that year, reflecting on the loss of her father.

While the sentiment was understandable, the results did not match it. She struggled across tournaments in Wuhan and Beijing.

Even though she failed to set the stage on fire in China, it did prove a pivotal moment in her career as she began working with Carlos Rodriguez during that tour.

For the Argentinian, this was familiar territory. He had previously coached another teenage sensation, Justine Henin, who also dealt with a family tragedy early on in her career – the death of her mother due to cancer when she was 12.

Under Rodriguez's tutelage, the foundations of Anisimova's aggressive baseline game, highlighted by devastating groundstrokes and a strong two-handed backhand, were strengthened.

> The only thing that motivates me is when people do not believe in me. That's the only thing I care about, when people think that I wouldn't win today or something like that, I want to prove people wrong

Rodriguez, who also coached Li Na, believes that Anisimova was born with the right instincts for the game. "She feels the game. It's something you can develop but cannot learn," he told *Tennis Channel* in 2019.

Reading the room

Another thing that is hard to teach an athlete is the ability to take tough calls and prioritise mental well-being, especially in their prime years.

Anisimova, in May 2023, did just that. Even though she continued to do well on court, she decided to take a break from tennis, stating that things were becoming "unbearable" for her.

"It was a tough decision, especially because I was at a pretty good place in my career. My ranking was good and everything was in a good place. But I knew deep down that I was struggling a lot and I was not really enjoying it. I know that success only comes when you are actually having fun, especially in the long term," she told WTA recently while reflecting on her decision to stay away from the tour.

Anisimova with her father.
INSTAGRAM/AMANDAANISIMOVA

Animisova went on vacations, spent time with family and friends, attended university in person and took up painting as a hobby. And when she finally picked up the racquet again, she began to play with the confidence of a veteran while also enjoying the process like a starry-eyed teenager trading rallies with their idols.

She made her comeback ranked World No. 373 and broke into the top-50 within eight months – the same amount of time she spent on the sidelines. She has since won the biggest title of her career (WTA 1000 in Doha), played two Grand Slam finals and reached a career-high ranking.

Anisimova, like many of sports' finest athletes, thrives when the chips are down. She remains unfazed and hyper-confident.

"The only thing that motivates me is when people do not believe in me. That's the only thing I care about... when people think that I wouldn't win today, or something like that, I want to prove people wrong," she explained in an interview in 2019.

And so, with Sabalenka just two points from the title and the craftsmen from Tiffany getting ready to etch the Belarusian's name on the trophy for the second straight year, Anisimova dug deep, broke serve and forced a tie-break. Though she ended up losing the match, it gave a glimpse of her new-found desire to fight until the very end. If the result is looked at in a larger context, the defeat was deflating rather than heartbreaking.

After losing to Swiatek at Wimbledon, Anisimova admitted that she cried for 30 minutes before getting on the phone with a friend and "laughing it off." And so the Florida resident will get over this setback, too. She will rest, she will reflect, and she will bounce back.

For, as Martina Navratilova remarked while commentating for the *BBC*, Anisimova is "too much of a perfectionist".

City civic groups move NGT against tunnel road project

On May 22, the State Cabinet approved the construction of a 16.74 km twin-tunnel from Esteem Mall in Hebbal to Silk Board

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru Praja Vedike and other civic groups in the city have moved the National Green Tribunal (NGT), seeking the cancellation of the proposed Twin Tunnel Road project, which claims to decongest the city's chronic traffic problem. The petition alleges that the ₹19,000-crore project violates environmental clearances, is riddled with flaws, and contradicts Bengaluru's mobility plans.

The citizen activists said that during the first hearing held on Wednesday, NGT directed that notices be issued to the State government, the State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA), Bangalore Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE), the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, and the project consultants.

D.T. Devare, environmentalist and a trustee of Bangalore Environment Trust (BET), and Kathyayini Chamaraj, Executive Trustee of Citizens Voluntary Initiative for the City (CIVIC), the co-petitioners, argue that the State government hastily announced the project in May 2024 during the State Budget without any credible technical assessment or backing in the Comprehensive Mobility Plan 2020. The proposal, the petition said, is politically driven from inception and was advanced despite two failed Expressions of Interest. The project is later retrofitted into a feasibility study through procedural manoeuvering, they alleged. On May 22, 2025, the State Cabinet approved the construction of a 16.74 km twin tunnel from Esteem Mall in Hebbal to Silk Board under a Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) model. A Special Purpose Vehicle, B-SMILE, was created to execute the project, with Rodic Consultants preparing the Detailed Project Report (DPR) in barely three months.

Independent studies, including those from the Indian Institute of Science, have warned that the project could encourage a shift from public to private transport, increase exhaust emissions and fossil fuels use, and worsen climate vulnerabilities. FILE PHOTO

Factual errors

The petition alleges that the DPR is riddled with factual errors, incomplete annexures, and critical omissions, including site-specific geological surveys, hydrological and flood-risk mapping, biodiversity assessment, and tree enumeration. Traffic modelling, it says, excludes major vehicle categories, underestimates emissions, and still admits that congestion at key junctions will remain unresolved.

The alignment of the tunnel, the petition points out, cuts through ecologically sensitive and legally protected areas such as the Peninsular Gneiss at Lalbagh, Hebbal Valley's stormwater corridor, and the vicinity of the critically polluted Peenya Industrial Area.

These zones are particularly vulnerable to groundwater depletion, soil instability, and aggravated flooding.

Independent studies, including those from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), have warned that the project could encourage a shift from public to private transport, increase exhaust emissions and fossil fuels use, and worsen climate vulnerabilities. Even statutory agencies like the Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) have noted that the tunnel road contradicts Bengaluru's approved mobility and climate policies and have recommended alternative measures instead, the petitioners said.

Despite these concerns, the petition alleges that authorities bypassed the mandatory Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), ignored public consultation, and exploited a loophole in the 2006 EIA notification, arguing that 'tunnels' are not explicitly listed to avoid clearance. This, the petitioners said, mirrors past unlawful practices such as the scrapped 2017 steel flyover project.

The petition further notes that the tunnel alignment overlaps with a proposed metro corridor, which offers a more inclusive, sustainable, and environmentally sound alternative.

The petitioners have sought the tribunal's intervention to declare the project unlawful, quash the tender process, and order its cancellation to prevent irreversible ecological damage. They have also urged the NGT to uphold statutory environmental safeguards.

Govt. declares 371-tree cantonment area as Biodiversity Heritage Site

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Forest, Ecology and Environment Minister Eshwar B. Khandre on Wednesday announced that the 8.61-acre Cantonment Railway Colony area, containing 371 trees from 50 different species, has been declared a Biodiversity Heritage Site. The announcement came after Mr. Khandre chaired a meeting of the State Biodiversity Board at Vikasa Soudha. "Survey Numbers 1028 and 1047 of the Cantonment Railway Colony, which are both historically significant and ecologically rich, have been declared a Biodiversity Heritage Site under Section 37 of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002," he said.

The Minister said the 34,843 sq. ft. stretch, located in the heart of the city, is not only home to diverse species of flora, fauna, and insects, but also serves as an essential lung space for Bengaluru.

"The area also carries historic significance, as Mahatma Gandhi had interacted with freedom fighters here in 1920. The trees play a vital role in reducing carbon dioxide levels, curbing air and noise pollution, and preserving the city's green cover," he said.

On April 25, the erstwhile BBMP issued a notice announcing that the RLDA had applied to remove 368 trees in the area for commercial activity

On April 25, the erstwhile Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike issued a notice announcing that the Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) had applied to remove 368 trees in the area for commercial activity.

Following the public notice, the proposal received strong opposition from environmentalists, tree lovers and the general public. In response, Mr. Khandre visited the site on June 20 for inspection. Following the inspection, the government proposed declaring the site a Biodiversity Heritage Site and invited citizens to submit suggestions, objections and feedback.

15,000 appeals

An online petition against tree felling in the Cantonment Railway Colony received 3,081 signatures, while another digital campaign opposing the cutting of 368 trees drew support from 10,670 people. In addition, 972 environmentalists and citizens sent emails backing the government's move and urging conservation of the trees. Several other petitions carrying hundreds of signatures were also submitted.

In total, more than 15,000 citizens called for the preservation of the 371 trees and the declaration of the site as a Biodiversity Heritage Site. A survey confirmed the existence of 371 trees in the area.

By contrast, the government received only two objections to the proposal. Taking into account public sentiment and concerns, as well as the site's natural beauty, historic importance, biodiversity, and its role as a habitat for both migratory and local bird species, the Biodiversity Board chaired by Mr. Khandre resolved to designate the site a Biodiversity Heritage Site.

"Bengaluru's air quality has already deteriorated, and its green cover is shrinking. At a time when the world is confronting climate change and rising global temperatures, conserving these 371 trees is of utmost importance," Mr. Khandre said.

'Forest personnel waylaid and intimidated'

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

The Forest Department has registered a police complaint against a few villagers of Bommalapura in Gundlupet taluk of Chamarajanagar district for locking up 10 field staff in a tiger trap cage on Tuesday.

The bizzare protest was to express their ire against an alleged casual and delayed response of the Forest Department in capturing a tiger that frequents the village. The Assistant Conservator of Forest has said in a statement that members of the Special Tiger Protection Force Platoon 1, who were on their way to Bommalapura for combing operations, were waylaid and intimidated by local villagers.

Timings
BENGALURU

THURSDAY, SEP. 11		
RISE	06:09	SET 18:23
RISE	21:10	SET 09:18
FRIDAY, SEP. 12		
RISE	06:09	SET 18:23
RISE	22:02	SET 10:19
SATURDAY, SEP. 13		
RISE	06:09	SET 18:22
RISE	22:59	SET 11:23

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	24
Mysuru	30	19
Bengaluru	29	21

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be slight warm. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
27°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be comfortable. Few spells of moderate to heavy rain and thundershower to occur.

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THE HINDU
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Orange Line may be delayed by a year as double-decker flyovers planned

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Bengaluru's ambitious Phase 3 of Namma Metro, referred to as the Orange Line, could be delayed by at least a year as the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has decided to integrate double-decker flyovers along portions of the corridor. Officials confirmed that this change in design will also push up the overall project cost by around 5%.

On August 10, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the long-pending Yellow Line, which links R.V. Road to Bommasandra, and during the same event, he also laid the foundation stone for Phase 3 of the metro network, an infrastructure project valued at more than ₹15,611 crore.

Tracking Namma Metro

Phase 3 will cover a total distance of over 44 km with 31 elevated stations. It has been conceived to serve Bengaluru's growing residential, industrial, educational, and commercial hubs. The project includes two corridors: the first stretching 32.15 km from J.P. Nagar 4th Phase to Kempapura, and the second spanning 12.5 km from Hosahalli to Kadabagere.

Despite receiving all statutory approvals, including clearance from the Union Cabinet in August 2024, the project's progress has slowed. Officials attribute the delay to design modifications required for the double-decker viaduct. "The changes demand about 25% more land for station structures as the increased height of the alignment necessitates additional road-widening measures," an official said.

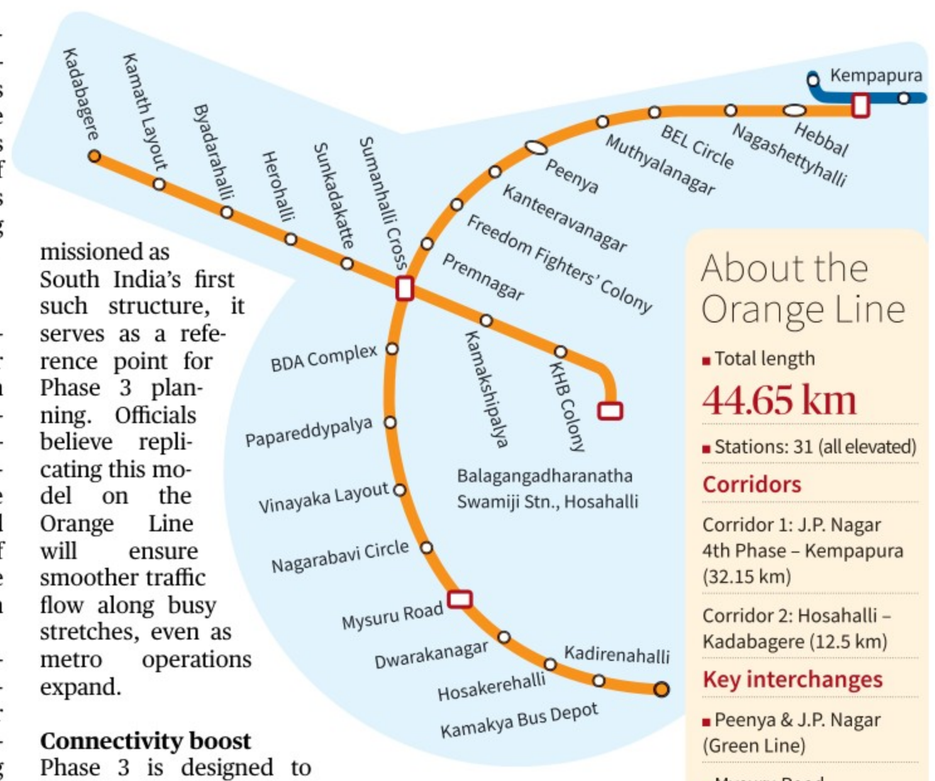
New deadline

Originally, BMRCL had targeted 2029 or mid-2030 for project completion. With the revised plan, the deadline has now been extended to May 2031. According to officials, the project will require around five and a half years to complete once construction begins.

The BMRCL expects to call tenders by November 2025. After finalising the bidding process, groundwork is likely to begin by December 2025 or January 2026. The construction is proposed to be taken up in at least eight tender packages.

A senior BMRCL official said, "We are incorporating double-decker flyovers along specific stretches of Phase 3 to address future road congestion. While this will add significant value by decongesting traffic and optimising space, it also means construction will take an additional year."

This plan is not new for Bengaluru. The Yellow Line already features a rail-cum-road double-decker flyover near Ragigudda, connecting to the Central Silk Board junction. Commissioned as South India's first such structure, it serves as a reference point for Phase 3 planning. Officials believe replicating this model on the Orange Line will ensure smoother traffic flow along busy stretches, even as metro operations expand.



Connectivity boost

Phase 3 is designed to strengthen connectivity by offering multiple interchange points with the existing and upcoming lines of Namma Metro. These include Peenya and J.P. Nagar stations on the Green Line, Mysuru Road Station on the Purple Line, and Sumanahalli Station on the Hosahalli–Kadabagere corridor.

J.P. Nagar Phase 4 will connect to the Pink Line at Bannerghatta Road, while Hebbal is expected to serve as a critical junction. Here, commuters will be able to switch to the Blue Line leading to Kempegowda International Airport, as well as the Red Line, which will run between Hebbal and Sarjapur.

The estimated cost of Phase 3 is ₹15,611 crore. Of this, about ₹7,577 crore will be funded through loans, while another ₹450 crore is expected to be raised through revenue sources such as station naming rights and advertising.

Once operational, the Orange Line will extend metro services to the western side of the Outer Ring Road and underserved stretches along Magadi Road. The corridor is projected to handle 7.85 lakh passengers per day. With this addition, the total length of Bengaluru's metro network will grow to 222.2 km, cementing its position as one of the largest urban metro systems in India. According to BMRCL officials, preliminary groundwork such as geotechnical surveys has already been completed. Land acquisition is also under way along key portions of the corridor.

(This is the last story of the *Tracking Namma Metro* series)

About the Orange Line

- Total length: **44.65 km**
- Stations: 31 (all elevated)

Corridors

Corridor 1: J.P. Nagar 4th Phase – Kempapura (32.15 km)

Corridor 2: Hosahalli – Kadabagere (12.5 km)

Key interchanges

- Peenya & J.P. Nagar (Green Line)
- Mysuru Road (Purple Line)
- Sumanahalli (Hosahalli–Kadabagere corridor)
- J.P. Nagar Phase 4 – Pink Line (Bannerghatta Road)
- Hebbal – Blue Line (Airport) & Red Line (Hebbal–Sarjapur)

Estimated cost: **₹15,611 crore**

White-topping of 271 roads to begin soon

Chetan B.C.
BENGALURU

The Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE), has been entrusted with all white-topping projects, including those already in progress, along with the additional appointment of nine executive engineers and 15 assistant executive engineers.

In an order dated September 6, B-SMILE Technical Director B.S. Prahallad appointed project engineers to supervise the proposed white-topping works across 10 zones of the five newly formed city corporations.

With the appointment of these engineers, white-topping works on nearly 271 roads covering 487.22 km across the city are expected to begin soon. To expedite progress, the engineers have been instructed to identify the works, conduct necessary surveys by September 14, and submit reports the following day.

In addition, the SPV has taken over ongoing white-topping works on 150 km, estimated at around ₹1,700 crore, which has now been officially handed over to it. This includes a 1.9 km stretch of J.C. Road in the city's core, which has been causing major traffic disruptions.

Mr. Prahallad directed the project engineers to prepare a road inventory, Pavement Condition Index (PCI), and detailed road history for the selected stretches. The SPV will undertake white-topping only on roads that have already undergone at least two rounds of asphalting, not on newly constructed roads.

Breakdown of 487.22 km of white-topping

Corporation	Roads	Length of roads (in km)
North	96	135.93
South	45	97.5
East	44	89.04
West	40	83.65
Central	46	81.1

96 roads in north

Among the upcoming projects, Bengaluru North Corporation alone will see white-topping on 96 roads in Hebbal, Yelahanka, and Dasarahalli. The Central Corporation will have 46 roads white-topped in areas like Shantinagar and C.V. Raman Nagar, including an 18 km stretch from Baiyappanahalli to Silk Board. In West Corporation, 40 roads in BTM Layout, Bommanahalli, and Vijayanagar will be taken up. East Corporation will see 44 roads white-topped, while South Corporation will cover 45 roads.

To accelerate the works, the government has added 24 engineers. However, the SPV still faces an 85% vacancy for senior engineer posts.

Meanwhile, the SPV is also preparing to begin road construction along the buffer zones of stormwater drains.

Focus on encroachment clearance, flood prevention, officials told

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Commissioners of Bengaluru East and North City Corporations have directed officials to step up civic initiatives, focusing on encroachment clearance, flood prevention, and infrastructure upkeep.

Bengaluru East City Corporation Commissioner Ramesh D.S. instructed officials to clear encroachments on lakes and stormwater drains, noting that 46 lakes fall under the corporation's jurisdiction. He ordered eviction drives where legal proceedings are complete and ordered surveys to identify major drain encroachments.

The Commissioner also ordered the removal of dry and hazardous trees and trimming of low-hanging branches. The Horticulture Department has been tasked with maintaining 38 public parks and roadside medians.

Meanwhile, Bengaluru North City Corporation Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar inspected ongoing works near the Hebbal flyover.

BANARAS LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221004

No. GSD/Scrap/Auction Programme/ 03/2025-26 — Office of The: Dy.CMM/D Dated: 09.09.2025

AUCTION PROGRAMME NOTICE NO.GSD/BLW/SCRAP/03/2025-26

Following is the schedule of e-auction to be held in the month of **'October, November & December' 2025** every Wednesday for sale of scrap under the jurisdictions of GSD/BLW, Varanasi.

Types of Auction: e-auction from (10:30 Hrs.), **Depot:** GSD/BLW/Varanasi, **e-auction Date of October-2025 (Wednesday):** 1st, 8th, 15th 22nd, 29th **e-auction Date of November-2025 (Wednesday):** 5th, 12th, 19th 26th, **e-auction Date of December-2025 (Wednesday):** 03rd, 10th, 17th 24th, 31st.

You are requested to actively participate in the above scheduled e-auction. For details please visit **IREPS** website at **www.ireps.gov.in.**

PRO/BLW/S-35 — Principal Chief Material Manager

/blwvaranasi — Website: blw.indianrailways.gov.in

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Rampant development, not climate, pushing Himalayas to the edge

The disasters in August and September are exposing the cost of ignoring the climate risks in the rush to achieve development in the Hindu Kush Himalayas; though natural events were blamed, the evidence points to completely unregulated construction and deforestation across the region

M. Rupa Rasagna

The overflowing Jhelum River flooding homes along its banks in Srinagar: IMRAN NISSAR

Punjab faced its worst floods since 1988 in August this year. Waters overflowing from the Sutlej, Beas, and Ravi rivers have destroyed several villages in the State. Around the same time, at least 34 people died after intense rainfall lashed India-controlled Kashmir and several parts of Pakistan. Early in August, the village of Dharali in Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand disappeared after a deluge triggered a landslide.

This was just August.

This isn't the first time the Indian Himalayan region has suffered such catastrophe; the 2013 Kedarnath floods and the 2021 disaster in Chamoli come to mind. And at least one thread runs through all of these incidents: they were all treated as unprecedented acts of nature.

The invisible hand

Experts have already said calling every heavy-rain event a "cloudburst" risks oversimplifying the disasters.

"Most of these natural disasters are not really natural at all. They are often a combination of two factors – climate change and development," Arun B. Shreshta, a senior advisor, Climate and Environmental Risks, at the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), said.

The Himalayas are the world's youngest mountains and are high-energy environments characterised by instability and variability. Landslides here are often triggered by heavy rainfall, slope undercutting or seismic activity.

According to ICIMOD research, the mountains are also particularly susceptible to floods, cloudbursts, glacial lake eruptions, and landslides.

Chief Justice B.R. Gavai called visuals of tree logs floating in flood waters in Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, and Uttarakhand in the first week of September a "very serious issue."

"Logs are seen flowing with the flood waters. If this goes on, we will not have any forests left. In Punjab, entire villages are inundated. Development is needed, but not at the cost of the environment and lives," Justice Gavai observed on September 4.

No blanket plan

On July 18, the Supreme Court bench of Justices J.B. Pardiwala and R. Mahadevan had observed: "If things proceed the way they are as of date, the day is not far when the entire state of Himachal Pradesh may vanish in thin air from the map of India. God forbid this does not happen."

The bench also said governments shouldn't build revenue at the cost of ecological sustainability, and blamed human activity for worsening disasters.

"I think the Supreme Court is very much right about this," Navneet Yadav, lead, Humanitarian Action and Disaster Risk Reduction at Caritas India, an NGO, said.

He added that development in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand can't happen according to the same plans drafted for metropolitan cities like Delhi and Mumbai.

"Every aspect of development should go through a lifecycle analysis. We should start looking at it in a completely different way, where we take into consideration the real impact of climate change," Mr. Shreshta, who also stressed on assessing the carrying capacity of an area before implementing any project, said.

"Prior to making any major interventions in the mountains, there should be clearly defined steps in terms of an honest and independent social impact assessment in addition to a disaster impact assessment, which should go through a democratic public consultation process," Himanshu Thakkar, coordinator of the South Asia Network on Dams, Rivers, and People, added.

The disaster potential

The Hindu Kush mountains are currently being encroached on as well as hosting more tourists, infrastructure development projects, and power generation activities. Together with a paucity of proper environmental impact assessments, experts have warned that the mountains are being pushed beyond their ability to cope.

According to the Directorate of Energy of Himachal Pradesh, there are 1,144 hydropower plants in the state, of which 721 are at various stages of clearance and investigation, 180 have been commissioned, and 53 are under construction. The Centre has also sanctioned funds to build new bridges and widen roads.

Similarly, in Uttarakhand, there are 40 operational hydroelectric plants while 87 more are at various stages of planning and construction, all to boost the State's power generation capacity.

All these construction activities entail the use of heavy equipment to cut through the mountains.

> Critical structures must never be built in unsafe locations because they are the places that house those affected by a disaster. But that is unfortunately not the reality. Most government schools are built on the worst kind of land
>
> **NAVNEET YADAV**
>
> LEAD, HUMANITARIAN ACTION AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AT CARITAS INDIA

"Today, we are building highways without any attention to how they can increase disaster potential," Mr. Thakkar said.

As the Supreme Court bench observed on July 18, the proliferation of 'development' work is joining hands with climate change to worsen the effects of rain and temperature changes.

On September 4, the apex court also issued a notice to the National Highways Authority of India following a petition that claimed 14 tunnels between Chandigarh and Manali turned into "death traps" during heavy rains.

The average temperature in the Indian Himalaya is already rising faster than the global average, resulting in reduced snowfall and more snow melt. When a glacier melts, the water pools into a new lake. If a rocky barrier adjacent to the lake shifts or breaks, all the water can be released into a nearby river or drain, leading to sudden and massive floods. These events are called glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs).

According to ICIMOD, there were more than 25,000 classified glacial lakes in five major river basins across the Himalayas by 2018, placing communities and livelihoods downstream at more and more risk.

'Worst kind of land'

"Infrastructure changes have to be done keeping in mind such climatic variations – GLOFs, landslides, and even droughts," Mr. Shreshta said. "The Himalayas are at a tipping point, and we need an urgent course correction that balances economy and energy. We need nature-based solutions with the involvement of the local communities because they know the local landscape and the hazards that come with it."

"Building climate literacy amongst the locals to drive local self-governance is important," Mr. Yadav said. "Not just that, all the critical structures, such as hospitals and schools, must never be built in unsafe locations because they are the immediate places that house those affected by any disaster. But that is unfortunately not the reality. Most government schools are built on the worst kind of land."

The rise in tourism has also stoked a demand for land on which to build hotels, homestays, and other facilities, and that in turn has been driving local deforestation. The deodar trees in particular are native to the region and hold the soil in place.

"When you remove them, the soil is in boulders which will soon erode out. And that erosion will increase the disaster potential of the area in terms of landslides and floods in the downstream villages," Mr. Thakkar said.

He added that it should be possible to 'develop' without tearing trees down.

(ruparasagna.m@thehindu.co.in)

The Ganga river in spate as it passes under the Howrah Bridge, in Kolkata. PTI

Steel truss bridges have 'secret' defences against collapse

The Hindu Bureau

Steel truss bridges have been the backbone of transport networks since the late 19th century. They are built from interconnected steel bars and they can span long distances and carry heavy loads, rendering them ideal for railways and highways. The Pamban, Howrah, and Saraighat bridges in India are some famous examples.

Many of these bridges remain in use today and often carry far more traffic than they were designed for. They're also exposed to more intense natural hazards like floods and storms, faster rates of material corrosion due to environmental change, and the simple wear of a century of service.

When one part of a truss bridge fails, the entire structure can collapse suddenly and disastrously. Such collapses incur human tragedies as well as economic shocks, since closing a busy bridge can cost crores of rupees a day. Engineers understand the primary resistance of these bridges well: the way intact parts carry normal traffic loads. But they have been less clear why some bridges survive after one component breaks while others collapse quickly.

A study in *Nature* on September 3, by researchers from Spain, has revealed why.

The team built a scaled-down steel truss bridge in the laboratory based on a common railway design called a Pratt truss. Then they simulated damage by cutting through specific components, such as chords and beams, to mimic sudden failure. In each scenario, sensors recorded how the structure responded. The team also created advanced computer models that reproduced both the intact and damaged states, allowing them to simulate more than 200 different damage scenarios.

The experiments revealed six fundamental secondary resistance mechanisms that activated when a main component failed: panel distortions, torsion of the whole structure, hinged rotations, out-of-plane bending, simple bridging by nearby members, and

Many bridges remain in use today and often carry far more than they were designed for. They're also exposed to more intense natural hazards like floods and storms

uniaxial bending. Like a spider web adapting to the loss of a thread, each of these mechanisms rerouted loads through alternative paths, preventing immediate collapse. Which mechanism dominated depended on which part failed. For example, losing a diagonal mainly triggered panel distortions, while losing a chord involved global torsion and rotation.

Even when damaged, the bridge specimen was surprisingly robust. It could withstand loads up to 3x higher than standard operating levels before collapsing. The failures propagated differently depending on the role of the original component. For instance, members that sustained compression, like upper chords, led to brittle failures, while tension-bearing members, like lower chords, led to more gradual and ductile failures. In all cases, however, the bridge only collapsed following a cascade of buckling failures spreading through the structure.

These insights open new doors for engineering practice. Just as understanding secondary mechanisms reshaped building design worldwide, the same knowledge can be used to guide safer engineering. For new bridges, engineers can refine designs to bolster secondary resistance mechanisms. In existing structures, inspections and retrofits can focus on critical areas that help activate these 'secret' defences. The study also provides a roadmap to make bridges more resilient to accidents, natural disasters, and the test of time.

THE SCIENCE QUIZ

Most powerful non-nuclear bombs

Please send in your answers to science@thehindu.co.in

Vasudevan Mukunth

QUESTION 1

Eighteen years ago, Russia tested a weapon it called the "Father of All Bombs." It was a _____ weapon because it worked by dispersing a cloud of aerosols in the air and setting it on fire, freeing it from having to carry the oxidiser. Fill in the blank.

QUESTION 2

In 2003, the U.S. Military developed the GBU43/B "massive ordnance air blast," colloquially called "X." The power of its blast was found to be equivalent to that of small nuclear weapons. It holds the record for being the heaviest explosive ever used in combat. What is "X"?

QUESTION 3

Russia's VA-111 Shkval torpedoes use a physical concept called _____. Here, the torpedo moves in water while the pressure behind it is lower than the vapour pressure of water, creating a bubble, which allows the torpedo to move very fast. Fill in the blank.

QUESTION 4

Y weapons come in two general forms: airbreathing and boost-glide. They are called so because they travel at more than five-times the speed of sound, allowing them to minimise the amount of time they spend being detectable by radar before they strike the target. What's Y?

QUESTION 5

An EFP is a unique kind of weapon that's designed to penetrate armour. It works by using a small bomb to deform a piece of metal into a pointy shape and propel it into an armoured surface. What does EFP stand for?

Answers to September 2 quiz:

1. Coauthor of Oppenheimer's September 1, 1939, paper – **Ans: Hartland Snyder**
2. Object that Oppenheimer, Tolman, Serber, Volkoff were studying – **Ans: Neutron stars**
3. Physicist who coined the term "black hole" – **Ans: John Wheeler**
4. Geometry of spacetime around a rotating black hole – **Ans: Kerr**
5. Surface 'above' an event horizon near rotating black holes – **Ans: Ergosphere**

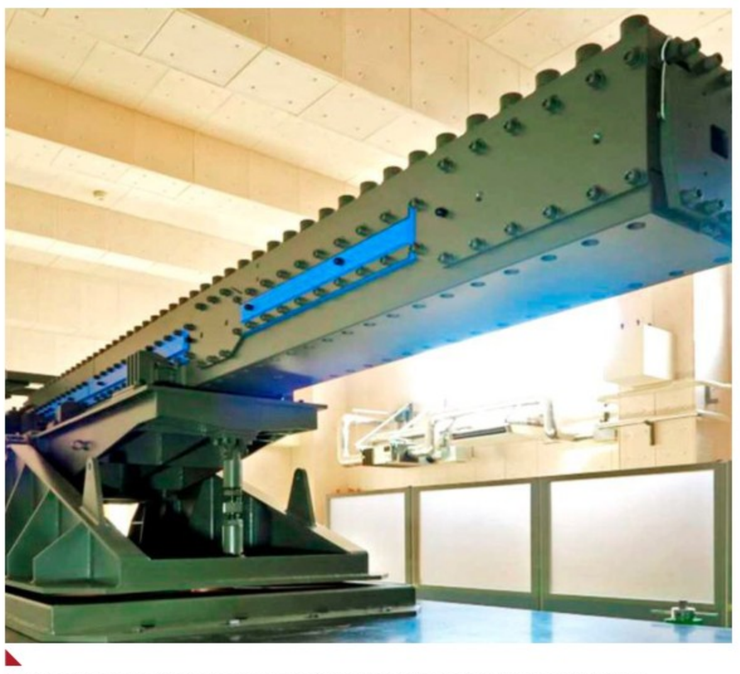
Visual: **Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar**

First contact: K.N. Viswanathan | Nitin Shah | Anmol Agrawal | Anusha Raj | Sharini Shivakumar

Answers to September 5 quiz:

1. Millimetres of mercury; **2.** Beats/contracts; rests between beats; **3.** True; **4.** They narrow and harden, reducing blood flow; **5.** About five litres; **6.** Hypotension; **7.** False; **8.** Salt; **9.** Sphygmomanometer

First contact: Udayakumar Bundimutt | Karthikeyan R.



A railgun runs a strong electric current through parallel rails, using the resulting electromagnetic forces to accelerate a projectile to extreme speeds.
JAPAN MOD

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for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

ADVERTISEMENT

UTTAR PRADESH @2047
FROM GROWTH ENGINE TO VIKSIT STATE

Uttar Pradesh is on the cusp of a historic transformation! Under the visionary leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the state has launched the "Samarth Uttar Pradesh–Viksit Uttar Pradesh @2047" campaign, aligning with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ambitious "Viksit Bharat @2047" vision. This bold initiative invites every citizen to contribute to a prosperous, innovative, and vibrant Uttar Pradesh by 2047. From being a 'BIMARU' state to emerging as India's second-largest and fastest-growing economy, UP's journey of resilience and progress is unstoppable. Uttar Pradesh is shaping a future where it sets the pace for the nation with economic strength, innovation, and energy.

Economic Achievements

UP Rises: From Despair to India's Economic Powerhouse!

Over eight years, Uttar Pradesh has rewritten its destiny. Once contributing only 8% to India's GDP in 2016–17, UP now stands tall as the country's second-largest economy, with its GSDP soaring from Rs. 13 lakh crore to Rs. 35 lakh crore target. Per capita income has surged, and UP's growth trajectory is unmatched, making it the fastest-growing state economy in India.

CM Yogi's Vision: *"In the 16th–17th centuries, India commanded 25% of global GDP. Today, under PM Modi's leadership, India is the world's fourth-largest economy, set to become third by 2027. UP is at the heart of this resurgence!"*

Transformation Story

From BIMARU to Boom: UP's Remarkable Turnaround

Eight years ago, Uttar Pradesh was synonymous with despair. Today, it is a beacon of hope and progress:

Economic Leap: UP's contribution to India's GDP has risen significantly, reversing the decline from 14% in 1947 to 8% by 2016–17.

MSME & Exports: The One District One Product (ODOP) scheme has empowered MSMEs, boosting exports to Rs. 2 lakh crore.

COVID-19 Resilience: UP provided food and shelter to 1 crore people, including 40 lakh artisans, during the pandemic.

Education & Innovation: Once plagued by farmer suicides and MSME closures, UP is now a hub of learning and industry, with recent deliberations at IIT Kanpur on AI, cybersecurity, and sustainability.

CM Yogi's Resolve: *"UP is blessed with every resource for development. All we need is determination. If we can transform from a BIMARU state to a growth engine in eight years, Viksit Uttar Pradesh by 2047 is within our grasp!"*

A Vision Rooted in History, Aimed at the Future

CM Yogi Adityanath reminded us of India's golden era when it held 25% of global GDP in the 16th–17th centuries. While it dwindled to 2% by 1947, India's rise to the fourth-largest economy today is a testament to its potential. Uttar Pradesh, with its vast resources and determined leadership, is poised to lead this resurgence.

Inspiration from Science: *Drawing from scientist Jagdish Chandra Bose, CM Yogi said, "Positivity fosters growth, just as encouragement made Bose's plant flourish. Let's nurture UP with optimism and action!"*

VIKSIT UTTAR PRADESH SAMARTH UTTAR PRADESH 2047
SANKALP SE SAMRIDDHI

A movement for progress: *Build a Viksit Uttar Pradesh!* Uttar Pradesh is no longer just a state-it's India's growth engine. With your ideas, experience, and determination, we can make UP the cornerstone of a Viksit Bharat by 2047. Visit the Samarth Uttar Pradesh portal, scan the QR code, and share your vision today!

Vision & Roadmap

Shatabdi Sankalp Abhiyan: Your Voice, UP's Future

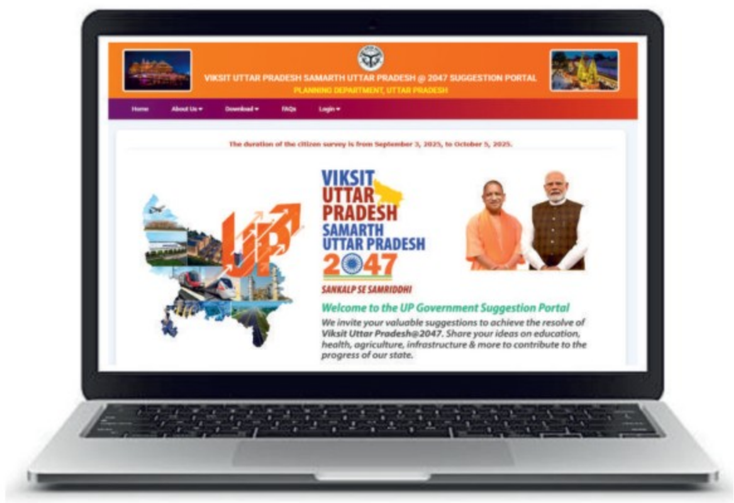
The "Samarth Uttar Pradesh – Viksit Uttar Pradesh @2047" campaign is a clarion call to every citizen, from youth to senior intellectuals, to shape the state's future. Launched on September 3, 2025, in Lucknow, the campaign introduced the Samarth Uttar Pradesh portal, where you can share ideas for the Vision Document 2047. This document will focus on 12 key sectors:

- Agriculture
- Health
- Education
- Industry
- IT
- Infrastructure
- Tourism
- Social Welfare
- Security
- Innovation
- Rural & Urban Development
- Good Governance

Scan the QR code to share your suggestions

How You Can Contribute:

- Share your suggestions via the Samarth UP portal.
- Participate in seminars at academic institutions.
- Engage in gram panchayat and ward-level resolutions.
- Scan QR codes to submit ideas for short, medium, and long-term plans.



CM Yogi's Appeal: *"Retirement does not mean fatigue. Your wisdom will energize this campaign. Let's prepare our youth for the UP we aspire to build!"*

A Roadmap to 2047:
Collective Action, Inclusive Growth

The Shatabdi Sankalp Abhiyan is a structured journey to a Viksit Uttar Pradesh:

Phase 1: Seminars in academic institutions to ignite young minds.

Phase 2: Active involvement of ministers, MPs, and MLAs.

Phase 3: Resolutions in every gram panchayat and ward to ensure grassroots participation.

Vision Document 2047: Your suggestions will shape short, medium, and long-term plans across 12 sectors.

The UP Assembly has already dedicated 36 hours to discussing Sustainable Development Goals and 27 hours to Viksit Uttar Pradesh, with bipartisan support. As Deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya said, "Viksit Bharat will emerge from developed families and villages."

CM Yogi's Call to Action:

"Let us shape the India and Uttar Pradesh we aspire for. Together, we will make UP a Viksit state by 2047!"

Samarth Uttar Pradesh – Viksit Uttar Pradesh @2047 A Campaign for Every Citizen, A Vision for Every Future

Visit the Samarth UP Portal | Scan the QR Code | Share Your Ideas Together, Let's Make History!

A BG-BGE

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The projected decline in revenue of Indian shrimp in FY26

12 in per cent. The U.S. is India's most critical market for frozen shrimp, representing 41% of the export volume and 48% of the value in FY25, India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) said in a report. The US's 50% reciprocal tariff is expected to significantly impact trade flows. PTI

Funds regional parties earned through electoral bonds

70 in per cent. Around 40 regional political parties declared a combined income of ₹2,532.09 crore in the financial year 2023-24, according to an analysis by Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR). The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) reported the highest income at ₹685.51 crore. PTI

Odisha's electric vehicle adoption target by 2030

50 in per cent. The Odisha Electric Policy, 2021, came into force in September 2021, with an objective of adopting 20% EVs in the next four years, an official said. "However, the target could not be achieved as only around 9% EV adoption took place during this period," he said. PTI

The death toll from attacks by an Islamist group in Congo

89 The attacks, carried out by the Allied Democratic Force (ADF), are the latest in a series of mass attacks on civilians in the troubled region. The ADF operates in the border region between Congo and Uganda. The ADF pledged allegiance to the Islamic State group in 2019. PTI

Dengue cases linked to climate change in Asia and the Americas

18 in per cent. The 18% translates into more than 4.6 million extra infections per year on average from 1995-2014, researchers said. Under continued global warming, mosquito-borne infectious diseases could climb another 50-76% by 2050. PTI

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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What is next for Indian football?

What did the Supreme Court judgment say about the status of the Indian Super League? Why did the Football Sports Development Limited put the 2025-26 season on hold? Has the All India Football Federation ratified its new constitution? Is there a possibility of the FSDL not being the commercial partner this season?

EXPLAINER

N. Sudarshan

The story so far:

On September 1, the Supreme Court of India paved the way for the commencement of the country's top-flight football – the Indian Super League (ISL). Scheduled to begin this month, the premier competition has been in limbo ever since the Football Sports Development Limited (FSDL), organisers of ISL, announced on July 11 that the 2025-26 season will be 'put on hold'. But in a short order – with a detailed judgment to follow – the SC accepted a tentative roadmap presented jointly by the FSDL and the All India Football Federation (AIFF) which will see the season start with the Super Cup in late October, followed by the ISL in December, subject to the consent of the Asian Football Confederation (AFC).

Why was the ISL put on hold?

In 2010, the AIFF signed a 15-year Master Rights Agreement (MRA) with the FSDL – a joint venture between Reliance Industries and Star Sports – to run the ISL, which eventually kicked off in 2014. The FSDL is AIFF's commercial partner and pays Indian football's custodian an annual sum of ₹50 crore for the right to broadcast, commercialise and manage Indian football, including the national team. But this agreement runs only till December 8, 2025, and though negotiations to finalise new terms went on for months, they remained inconclusive. A deal that will expire midway through the season was deemed undesirable and the organisers decided to suspend operations until there was clarity about the future.

The situation was made more complicated when the SC, back in April, asked both parties not to take any final decision until it pronounces the judgment in a case regarding the formulation of a new constitution for the AIFF. This case arose out of a judgment passed by the Delhi High Court in 2017 which deemed that the election of AIFF office-bearers was in violation of the National Sports Code. The SC stayed the HC order and called for a new constitution to be drafted. The SC's recent prohibition on any decisive parleys between AIFF and FSDL was essentially to avoid a scenario where the eventual verdict calls for fresh elections and the whole MRA has to be renegotiated by the new AIFF committee.

Fresh hope: The Kerala Blasters FC team during a training session in Kochi in 2023. FILE PHOTO

On August 22, however, after being apprised of the difficulties faced by the stakeholders in the football ecosystem, the SC asked AIFF and FSDL to come up with a "workable arrangement for the smooth functioning of the league(s)". The SC, through last week's order, while making no mention of fresh elections, *prima facie* accepted the joint roadmap and stated that the "collaborative effort is a significant step in the evolution of Indian football".

What have AIFF and FSDL proposed?

Apart from the provisional dates for starting the season, it has been agreed to "conduct an open, competitive and transparent tender for selection of a commercial partner to conduct the ISL in line with global best practices". This effectively means that there is a chance that the FSDL may cease to be the commercial partner if any other entity outbids it. Additionally, FSDL agreed to "waive its contractual Right of First Negotiation and Right to Match under the Master Rights Agreement dated 08 December 2010" and to issue a No Objection Certificate for the execution of this tender. This process is to wind up before October 15 and a bid evaluation committee has been formed for the same. FSDL also told the SC that the July-September quarterly rights fee of ₹12.5 crore has been cleared and that it was open to advancing the payment of the final tranche of ₹12.5 crore for the October-December 2025 quarter.

What does the short to medium-term future hold?

Once the tender is floated and a commercial partner finalised, broadcast deals have to be struck and revenue-sharing agreements with clubs drawn. These remain important for clubs to work out their budgets for the season.

While such negotiations progress on one side, authorities will have to deal with the stern ultimatum that the world governing body FIFA and AFC have issued to the AIFF to adopt and ratify its new constitution by October 30. It is to be noted that in August 2022, when the SC appointed a Committee of Administrators (CoA) to temporarily assume charge of AIFF and finalise the new constitution, FIFA suspended the AIFF citing "undue interference by a third party".

A repeat of this episode is unlikely, for the AIFF is now governed by an elected committee, and the SC's detailed judgment ratifying the constitution – as finalised by Justice (Retd.) L. Nageswara Rao after taking into account the comments and suggestions of various stakeholders on the draft version prepared by the CoA – is expected shortly.

The constitution has to be in line with the National Sports Governance Act, 2025, which was passed during the recent monsoon session of Parliament. But the Act, despite receiving Presidential assent, is yet to notified. The SC had initially kept its judgment pending to ensure that the constitution was in sync with the Sports Governance Act. But in the last hearing, it indicated that it will not wait for the law to be notified after being informed by the Centre's counsel that it could take as many as six months.

THE GIST

- In 2010, the AIFF signed a 15-year Master Rights Agreement (MRA) with the FSDL — a joint venture between Reliance Industries and Star Sports — to run the ISL, which eventually kicked off in 2014.
- But this agreement runs only till December 8, 2025, and though negotiations to finalise new terms went on for months, they remained inconclusive.
- On September 1, the Supreme Court of India paved the way for the commencement of the country's top-flight football — the Indian Super League (ISL).

Why does peace seem so elusive to eastern DRC?

Why is the U.S. interested in entering the region? Why did the ceasefire deal fail?

Anu Maria Joseph

The story so far:

Over the past eight weeks, the conflict in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has seen two major developments. On June 27, Rwanda and the DRC signed a U.S.-brokered peace agreement in Washington, DC. On July 19, the Congolese government and M23 rebel group signed a ceasefire deal in Doha, mediated by Qatar. However, days after the U.S.-led peace agreement and Doha ceasefire, M23 resumed its offensive, undermining the peace objectives.

What happened in the U.S. and Doha?

Washington brought the DRC and Rwanda to sign a peace agreement, committing to a cessation of hostilities, respect for territorial integrity, and an end to support for armed groups, including the M23. Both signatories agreed to establish a Joint Security Coordination Mechanism (JSCM) within 30 days to oversee conflict settlement and an Economic Integration Framework within 90 days to promote licit mineral trade and economic cooperation. The accord also calls for disengagement, disarmament, and conditional integration of armed groups into the Congolese forces. For the DRC, the U.S. entry meant an end to illicit mineral trade; security assistance; and U.S. investment. Rwanda has been accused by the UN and other Western countries of supporting the M23 rebels. The international pressure left Rwanda with no option but to sign the agreement.

Doha mediated directly between the DRC and the non-state armed group, M23. The DRC and M23 rebels signed a Declaration of Principles, agreeing to an immediate ceasefire and commitment to reach a comprehensive peace agreement by August 18. The M23 promised to withdraw from the regions it seized, and the DRC agreed to release M23 prisoners.

What are the interests of the U.S.?

For the U.S, the deal would give them access to the DRC's $24 trillion worth of critical mineral reserves. The country possesses 70% of global cobalt reserves, making it the world's largest producer. The region is also popular for its coltan, copper, diamond, gold and tin reserves. Further, U.S. entry into the region would mean an end to Chinese companies' monopoly in the DRC's mineral sector.

Did the peace agreement last?

The Doha ceasefire did not hold for long. M23 continued its offensives in North and South Kivu provinces. The Human Rights Watch reported that the group killed more than 140 people in July. The ceasefire was violated when M23 and DRC failed to adhere to the terms of the agreement. M23 has not withdrawn from the regions it seized, nor has the DRC released M23 prisoners.

What does it mean for the conflict?

The U.S.'s direct involvement and Qatar's mediation with armed groups have brought hope and opened a gateway toward trust and a lasting peace in eastern DRC. Although the ceasefire was violated, Qatar resumed re-negotiating with the warring sides on August 26. However, DRC's record of previously failed ceasefires and peace efforts signal that commitment and compliance from all actors can never be guaranteed.

Unlike previous peace initiatives, the U.S.-led peace agreement served the security, political and economic interests of the warring parties. The signing of the agreement conveyed an impression of a return to peace in the region, which is far from happening. The conflict in eastern DRC is rooted in unresolved history stemming from the Rwandan genocide of 1994, the subsequent Congo wars, and the tensions between more than a hundred ethnic armed groups, persisting over decades. Although the peace agreement successfully brought Rwanda and DRC to the bargaining table, the root causes of the conflict remain unaddressed. Therefore, for the agreement to succeed, it requires a comprehensive peace process and continued efforts.

The author is a Project Associate at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore.

THE GIST

- Washington brought the DRC and Rwanda to sign a peace agreement, committing to a cessation of hostilities, respect for territorial integrity, and an end to support for armed groups, including the M23.
- Doha mediated directly between the DRC and the non-state armed group, M23.
- The U.S.'s direct involvement and Qatar's mediation with armed groups have brought hope and opened a gateway toward trust and a lasting peace in eastern DRC.

ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL

ASC CENTRE & COLLEGE
AGRAM - POST, BANGALORE-560007
PHONE: 080 25550677 WEBSITE: WWW.APSASC.EDU.IN

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tender are invited for supply and installation of 125 KVA DG set, ATS panel and Generator Shed at Army Public School ASC Centre & College. Tender Enquiry/Form to be collected from school office after payment of ₹500/- (DD in favour APS ASC Centre & College) from 11 Sep 2025 to 22 Sep 2025 (1000hrs to 1300hrs). Last date to submit filled tender form is 22 Sep 2025 at 1200 hrs.

Presiding Officer/Member 1
For School Management

ANDHRA PRADESH CAPITAL REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY(APCRDA)
Lenin Center, Governerpet, Vijayawada – 520002 (A.P.)

E Procurement Tender Notice (Second call)

NIT No. 18/MAU61-USI0HB(OTH)/321/2025-CETT/ 2nd call, Dt:08/09/2025
Name of Work: APCRDA - "Providing of Housekeeping, Sanitation, Pest Control Services, including consumables and engaging skilled technicians for AP High Court buildings i.e., High Court Main Building, Annexe building, Six Temporary Court Halls Building, (PEB) & External area at Nelapadu for a period of One year".
The bid can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal from **11.09.2025 to 26.09.2025 up to 14.00 Hrs.** Due date for submission of Bid is **26.09.2025 up to 15.00 Hrs,** Technical bid opening **26.09.2025 @ 16.00 Hrs.** For further details Please refer to **www.apeprocurement.gov.in and www.crda.ap.gov.in.**

E Procurement Short Tender Notice (Second call)

NIT No.74/PROC/MAUD61-USI0HB(OTH)/378/2025-HB,2nd call, Dated: 8-9-2025
Name of Work: APCRDA - "RFP for Selection of Agency for Liaisoning, and Obtaining Environmental Clearances for Desilting on fore Shore area of Prakasam Barrage on Krishna River".
The bid can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal from **11.09.2025 to 15.09.2025 up to 14.00 Hrs.** Due date for submission of Bid is **15.09.2025 up to 15.00 Hrs,** Technical bid opening **15.09.2025 @ 16.00 Hrs.** For further details Please refer to **www.apeprocurement.gov.in and www.crda.ap.gov.in.**

Sd/- Commissioner, APCRDA,Vijayawada.

Sri Venkateswara Swamy vari Devastanam
Dwaraka Tirumala (Chinna Tirupathi) Eluru Dist-534426. Ph: 08829-271427
Website: www.dwarakatirumala.org, e-mail: eo_dwarakatirumala@yahoo.co.in

Computer No.50924 - REV65/34/2023-C2, Dt: 10-09-2025 (2nd Call)

E-Tender / Sealed Tender / Public Auction for collection of Human Hair right for 2 years i.e for the period from 13.11.2025 to 12.11.2027. Public auction will be conducted on 26.09.2025 at Paduka Mandapam. **Required Documents: 1. Aadhar Card, 2. Pan Card, 3. Last three years IT returns (2022-23, 23-24 and 24-2025) The Tender Details as 1.** EMD Rs.1,00,00,000/- to be paid in the form of D.D in favor of Executive Officer, Sri Venkateswara Swamyvari Devastanam, Dwarakatirumala, **2.** Tender Schedule issued from Dt: 12.09.2025 to 25.09.2025 10 am to 5 pm, **3.** Sealed Tender Participation Dt: 26.09.2025 10 am to 11 pm, **4.** E-Procurement **www.apeprocurement.gov.in.** login starts from Dt: 12.09.2025.
Note: for further information please contact leases section in office timings: Contact Numbers: 63003 88355, 84650 44484, 62814 07989.

Sri S.V.Sudhakara Rao Chairman & Founder Trustee
Sd/- **N.V.S.N. Murthy** Joint Commissioner & Executive Officer

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REVENUE DEPARTMENT
ATALJI JANASNEHI DIRECTORATE
SSLR BUILDING, K.R.CIRCLE, BENGALURU-560001

No: RC-AJSK0ADMN(TEN)/1/2025/E-1676223 Date:10.09.2025

e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited from reputed firms for procurement of Skilled Technical Manpower Resource to Atalji Janasnehi Directorate.
The Tender documents and related information can be obtained from e-Procurement portal - **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Tender No: **AJSD/2025-26/SE0007 from 11-09-2025 to 29-09-2025.**

Sd/-
Additional Director,
Atalji Janasnehi Directorate, Bengaluru.

DIPR/CP/SPAN/2754/25-26

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that we are investigating the rights, title and interests of M/s Hikoki Power Tools India Private Limited, a company deemed to be existing under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956, bearing CIN: U31900KA1996PTC020380 and having its registered office at Plot No. 9-A, Peenya Industrial Area, Phase - 1, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bengaluru - 560058, Karnataka (the "**Company**") to the land more particularly described in the **Schedule** hereunder written (the "**Land**"), together with the buildings standing thereon ("**Buildings**") more particularly described in the **Schedule** hereunder written. The said Land and the said Building are collectively hereinafter referred to as "**the said Property**".

All persons having or claiming any share, right, title, estate, claim or interest against or to the Land or any part thereof or the Building or any part thereof or any FSI or development potential thereof, whether by way of sale, transfer, exchange, assignment, lease, sub-lease, tenancy, sub-tenancy, leave and license, license, care-taker basis, mortgage, inheritance, share, gift, devise, lien, charge, maintenance, easement, trust, will, bequest, beneficiary/ies, possession, release, relinquishment or by way of any other method through any agreement, deed, document, writing, conveyance deed, development agreement, letter of intent, devise, bequest, succession, family arrangement / settlement, litigation, decree or court order of any Court of Law, any contracts, any agreements, development rights or FSI consumption or TDR or encumbrance or otherwise howsoever and / or against the Company, are required to make the same known, in writing and along with documentary proof, to the undersigned at their office at **Wadia Ghandy & Co. Bangalore, Pride Elite, 2nd floor, Museum Cross Road Bangalore-560001, Karnataka** and by way of email to **pinaz.mehta@wadiaghandy.com** within a period of 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication hereof, failing which any such purported claim, right, title, estate or interest shall be disregarded and shall be deemed to have been waived and/or abandoned.

THE SCHEDULE REFERRED TO HEREINABOVE
(Description of the said Property)

All that piece and parcel of land bearing Municipal No. 11 (earlier being Plot No. 9-A) measuring 80,439 square feet (7,473 square meters) along with the buildings constructed thereon situated at Peenya Industrial Area Phase-I, formed in lands bearing Survey Nos. 11, 32 & 33 of Peenya Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bengaluru presently bearing E-PID No. 2426039405 is bounded as follows:

East by : Plot No. 9B; West by : KIADB Road;
North by : Masonry Drain; South by : Private Property;

Date: 11.09.2025
Bangalore,

For Wadia Ghandy & Co. (Bangalore),
Pinaz Mehta, Partner

Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Prasaran Nigam Limited

NOTICE INVITING BID

Online e-bid invited from firms/ contractors for following project:
BID ENQUIRY No. RVPN/EHV/A&SP/TN-126: Design, Supply, Installation, integration and Commissioning and Maintenance of Remote Terminal Unit (RTU) and Phasor Measurement Unit (PMU) including replacement of old and Obsolete RTU, Opening Date: 08.10.2025. [UBN No.VPN2526WLOB01609].
The detailed NIT/ Tender Document/Specification and Date Extension are available for viewing/downloading on the website **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** and on departmental website **https://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rrvpn.**

Superintending Engineer
(Automation, N/M and SP), Jaipur

Raj.Samwad/C/25/9609 RRVPN/TR-7113/2025

Karnataka Public Works Department
Office of the Engineer-in-Chief, PRAMC, PWD, Bengaluru-560001

No.: EIC/PWD/05/PRAMC/2025-26/1024 Date: 10.09.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER

The Executive Engineer, PRAMC, KPWD on behalf of Governor of Karnataka, invites Short Term Tender for Nine Road Safety works in Belagavi, Chikkamagaluru, Dakshina Kannada, Kalburgi, Mysore & Mandya Districts.Further details can be obtained from Karnataka KPP Portal (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) from **11.09.2025, 5:30 PM** onwards.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PRAMC, KPWD, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/LC/2752/2025-26

कार्यालय अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता, सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग सम्भाग, भरतपुर

क्रमांक अमुअ/भरत/त.स./2025-26/डी-

संशोधन पत्र निविदा सूचना संख्या 11/2025-26

इस कार्यालय के पत्र क्रमांक एसीई/बीटीपी/भरत/निविदा/2025-26/डी-1060 दिनांक 07.08.2025 से जारी निविदा सूचना संख्या 11/2025-26 के तहत बजट घोषणा 2025-26 के अन्तर्गत भरतपुर संभाग के अधीन जिला करौली में 02 सड़क निर्माण कार्य के लिए, जो कि एसपीपी पोर्टल पर NIB NO. **PWD2526A2483** से प्रकाशित हुई है, की तिथियों में निम्नानुसार संशोधन जारी किया जाता है जो वेबसाईट **"www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in"** एवं **"www.sppp.raj.nic.in"** पर देखा जा सकता है।

विवरण	पूर्व प्रकाशित तिथियां	संशोधित तिथियां
ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म मिलने की तारीख	दिनांक 11.08.2025 प्रातः 9.30 बजे से दिनांक 03.09.2025 सायं 06.00 बजे तक	दिनांक 11.08.2025 प्रातः 9.30 बजे से दिनांक 15.09.2025 सायं 06.00 बजे तक
ऑनलाईन निविदा फार्म जमा कराने की तारीख	दिनांक 11.08.2025 प्रातः 9.30 बजे से दिनांक 03.09.2025 सायं 06.00 बजे तक	दिनांक 11.08.2025 प्रातः 9.30 बजे से दिनांक 15.09.2025 सायं 06.00 बजे तक
ऑनलाईन तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तारीख	कार्य के सम्मुख अंकित कार्यालय में 04.09.2025 अपरान्ह 03.00 बजे खोली जायेगी।	कार्य के सम्मुख अंकित कार्यालय में 16.09.2025 अपरान्ह 03.00 बजे खोली जायेगी।

निविदा की शेष शर्तें यथावत रहेगी।

UBN NO. PWD2526WLOB09208
UBN NO. PWD2526WLOB09210
NIT RO NO. 11493

अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियन्ता
सानिवि संभाग भरतपुर

DIPR/C/12691/2025

Smart City
MANGALURU SMART CITY LIMITED
Mangaluru City Corporation Building, 2nd Floor, M.G. ROAD, Lalbagh, Mangaluru-575003, Dakshina Kannada

Advertisement No.:159/2025-26 Date: 09.09.2025

Tender cum E-Auction Notification
(through E-Procurement only)

Mangaluru Smart City Limited invites tender for **"APPOINMENT OF A MANAGEMENT OPERATOR TO OPERATE & MAINTAIN THE INDOOR SHUTTLE BADMINTON AND KABBADI STADIUM ALONG WITH ALL OTHER FACILITIES AT URWA, MANGALURU"**
The work is being tendered through Tender-cum-E-Auction process through KPPP, wherein a comprehensive operation and maintenance of the sports complex shall be carried out by the Operator. The tender cum E-Auction process shall be conducted as per the provisions of KPPP.
Accordingly, a Tender with Indent No. MSCL/2025-26/SE0007 has been created and eligible individuals/organizations are being invited to participate in the tender. The RFP and other terms and conditions can be obtained from the e-portal. Tenders must be submitted on or before **25.09.2025, before 5:30 PM.**
A pre-bid meeting for the benefit of the bidders is scheduled on **20.09.2025 at 4:00 PM** at MSCL office all further details can be accessed only thorough the KPPP **(http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** website.

Sd/- General Manager (Tech)
Mangaluru Smart City Limited
Mangaluru

DIPR/DK/KSMCA/764/25-26 dt.10.09.2025

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

TENDER NOTIFICATION

KPTCL invites tenders for the following works.

(1) No: CEE/Tr(OP)ZB/SEE(O)/AEE-3/F-306(3)/DBP/2025-26 /5277-78 Date: 06.09.2025
Enquiry No: KPTCL/CEE/T(O)Z/BZ/TTK-19 for "Erection of additional 1 no. of MCVCB switchgear (Incomer + feeder + Annunciation panel) for 20MVA, 66/11kV Transformer-1 side at **66/11kV Tubgere sub-station,** Operation Division, Doddaballapura on Total Turnkey Basis including supply of all matching materials/equipments (excluding supply of 11kV switchgear), erection (including civil works) of all materials/ equipments, testing & commissioning."

(2) No.: CEE/Tr(OP)ZB/SEE(O)/AEE-3/F-306(2)/GBR/2025-26/5279-80 Date: 06.09.2025
Enquiry No: KPTCL/CEE/T(O)Z/BZ/TTK-20 for "Erection of 3 nos. of 11kV MCVCB switchgear feeder panels for bi-furcation of 11kV feeders at **66/11kV Nallimaradahalli S/s,** Operation Division, Doddaballapura on Total Turnkey Basis including supply of all matching materials/equipments (excluding supply of 11kV MCVCB feeder panel),erection (including civil works) of all materials/equipments, testing & commissioning".

The bids will be received through electronic tender mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the E-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to **KPP Portal website www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **15.09.2025.** Other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Ele), Transmission
(Operations) Zone, KPTCL,A.R. Circle, Bengaluru-09

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Sri. Ananth Kumar C. V. S/o. Sri. Venkataswamy is interested in purchasing the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration from its owner Sri. V. Nanjundappa S/o. Late. Venkatappa, residing at Settymadamangala Village, Sugtur Hobli, Kolar Taluk and District.
If any persons, banks, financial institutions etc., having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Land bearing Sy. No. 90/2 land measuring to an extent of 15 Guntas situated at Settymadamangala Village, Sugtur Hobli, Kolar Taluk and bounded as follows : East by : Property of S. V. Narayana swamy, West by: Property of Nageshaiah, North by : Property of Kumbara Muniyappa, South by : Property of Kullappa.

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY, ROOPA. B, & B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR, Advocates, #1010, 2nd Floor, 7th A Main Road, 1st Block, Koramangala, Bangalore - 560034
Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832
Bangalore, Date : 10-09-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that **Shri. B. CHANDRASEKARAN,** aged about 51 years, s/o. C. Balakrishnan R/at: 4/15, Duraiswamy Naidu Street, Poondi Village, Walajah Taluk, Poondi Vellore Tamil Nadu – 682 513, today at Bangalore, is the full & absolute owner of the Site bearing No. 18, Sl. No. 386, Property No. 104/2/18 of Kammasandra Village, Anekal Taluk, which is morefully described in the schedule below, having been purchased from A. Rajendra, under Sale Deed dated 10/05/2012 registered as Document No. ABL-1-00769/2012-13 of Book – I stored in CD No. ABLD105 in the office of the Senior Sub-Registrar, Attibele, Bangalore.

It is further notified to the general public that the earlier Sale Deed dated 06/05/2003 executed by Sundrappa in favour of K. Padmanabhan, registered as Document No. 1072/2003-04 of Book – I stored in C.D. No. 28/2003-04 in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal, was lost/missing. A Police complaint in this regard was also lodged with the Jurisdictional Police/Bangalore City vide Lost Report No. 1658986/2025 dated 18/06/2025. It is hereby requested that if any person/s comes across or finds the same, they are requested to hand over the same to the below-mentioned address & they will be compensated accordingly.

It is also notified that **Mrs. Anjelina Mascarenhas and Mr. Wiston D Souza,** both R/at No. Chennarkatte House, Badiadka, Perdala, Kasargod, Kerala – 671 551, is intending to avail a loan from LIC Housing Finance Ltd., to purchase the scheduled property from the present owner/B. Chandrasekaran.

The General Public is hereby further cautioned that if anybody deals with the Schedule Property with any person/s based on the misplaced/lost document mentioned above, it is at their own risk & cost, and such person/s will not derive any title over the Schedule Property, and in such an event, they have no claim of whatsoever nature against Chandrashekar nor the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of property bearing **Site No. 18,** Sl. No. 386, Property No. 104/2/18, as per Form No. 9 and 11 and Janjar No. 2643, Property No. 104/2 as per the sale deed, situated at **KAMMASANDRA VILLAGE, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District,** measuring East to West **30 feet**, North to South **40 feet,** totally measuring **1200 square feet** and bounded on: -

East by : Site No. 17; West by : Site No. 19; North by : Private Property & South by : Road.

Shri. G.N. HARISH, Advocate, Office at No. 312, Ground Floor, 21st 'A' Cross, VI Block, Jayanagar, BANGALORE - 560 070

Dated : 11/09/2025 Place : Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of my client **Sri Sridhar** to bring to the notice of the general public that the Original **1.** Sale deed dt.23.04.2001 Reg.Doc. No.814/2001-02 of Book I, CD No.59 **2.** Sale deed dt. 15.02.2001 Reg.Doc. No.11178/2000-01 of Book I and **3.** Sale deed dt.15.02.2001 Reg. Doc. No. 11180/2000-01 of Book I, CD No.54 all deeds registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Kengeri, Bangalore in respect of Site No.76, formed in Sy.No.84/2 & 84/3 measuring East to West 50 feet and North to South 80 feet, total measuring 4000 Sq.ft., Site No.77, formed in Sy.No.82/3 measuring East to West 80 feet and North to South 50 feet, total measuring 4000 Sq.ft., and Site No.78, formed in Sy.No.82/3 measuring East to West 80 feet and North to South 50 feet, total measuring 4000 Sq.ft., all sites situated at **Kembathahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk, Bengaluru** has been lost at the time of travelling.
All the persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said Sale deeds. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within **7 days** from this present along with that Police Complaint is also given vide **Lost Report No.1795100/2025, dated 10.09.2025.**

Y. Sowmya Yadav, Advocate
Samvruddhi Legal, # 83, Ground Floor, 5th 'A' Cross, 21st Main, J.P. Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore-78. **M : 9916343921**

Department of School Education
(PRE-UNIVERSITY)
18TH CROSS, MALLESWARAM, BENGALURU-560012
e-mail: commissioner.pue@gmail.com Phone: 080-23562033

No: DPUE-EST10OTH/246/2025-ADMN-1909173 Date: 10.09.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(THROUGH KPP PORTAL ONLY)

DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION (PRE UNIVERSITY) IS INVITING E-TENDER NOTIFICATION FOR FOLLOWING IT HARDWARE

SL. NO.	EXPLANATION	TENDER NUMBER	AMOUNT RS. IN LAKHS
01	SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF ALL IN ONE COMPUTERS AT DIFFERENT 74 ADARSHA GOVT PU COLLEGES ACROSS KARNATAKA	PUED/2025-26/ IND0098	503.20/-
02	SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF ALL IN ONE COMPUTERS AT DIFFERENT 100 PU COLLEGES ACROSS KARNATAKA	PUED/2025-26/ IND0097	816.00/-

The tender details are available in the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** the date for the commencement of e-tender is **10.09.2025** and Last Date is **09.10.2025 at 5.30 PM.** For more details contact E-procurement portal.

Sd/- Director, Department of School Education (Pre-University)

Govt. of Bihar

Tender Cancellation Notice
Urban Development and Housing Department
1st Floor, Vikas Bhawan,
New Secretariat, patna-800015
(Tel: 0612- 2215580, Fax: 2217059 Email: urbansec-bih@nic.in)

File No:-09/न०वि०मा०प्ला०–19/2025

Tender Cancellation Notice P.R. No.-010385 (URBAN) 2025-26

Due to some unavoidable reason the Tender No-09/न० वि०मा० प्ला०–19/2025–8455, Dated-**31.07.2025"Selection of Agency For Preparation of Comprehensive City Revitalization Plans Including Central Business Districts (CBDs) & Historic Core For Sitamarhi"(PR No.- 010385 (URBAN) 2025-26)** is being cancelled

This information is available on **www.state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar also**

Additional Secretary,
Urban Development and Housing Department
Govt. of Bihar.

PR. No. 014142 (URBAN) 25-26

नशामुक्त हो जाए बिहार, सुरक्षित रहे घर परिवार।

Govt of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PWD DIVISION, KALABURAGI

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

No: EE/PWD/KD/TS-2/Tender Notification/2025-26/3400 Dated: 10.09.2025

1) Name of Work: Executive Engineer PWD Division Invites tender for the (02) Works under KKRDB for Indent No.23530, 23531. 2) **Estimate Cost Rs.950.00 Lakhs.** 3) Eligibility of Contractor: **Class-I and above**. 4) **EMD Amount : Rs.9,00,000.00** 5) Pre Bid Meeting : **08/10/2025 (11.00 Hrs.) 6)** Last date of quries **: 09/10/2025 (17.30 Hrs.) 7)** Last date for submission of Bid : **10/10/2025 (16.00 Hrs.) 8)** Date of opening of technical Bid : **13.10.2025 (16.30 Hrs.) 9)** Date of opening of Financial Bid, (for Two Cover) **15.10.2025 (11.30 Hrs.) 10)** Enquiries : Office of the Executive Engineer PWD Division Kalaburagi. 11) **Note : GST will be paid Separately.** 12) website: www.e-proc.karnataka.gov.in 13) **Bidders Should Note That : Note** 1) Undersigned reserves the right to Cancel / Postpone/ Reject any or all the tenders at any point of time during tender process without assigning any reason. 2) Changes in the tender process will not be Published in the News Papers Bidders may get Details of Changes in KPPP Portal Only.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PWD Divison Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/492/2025-26/Deshpande Publicity

BENGALURU SMART INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED
Office of the Superintending Engineer
Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE),
N.R.Square, Bengaluru - 560002

No: B-SMILE/SE/TEND/04-CALL-2/2025-26 Date: 10.09.2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT) (Call-2)

(Through **GOK** KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** only)
The Government of Karnataka has Constituted "Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited" (B-SMILE) for implementation of Specific, Mega and Long term Infrastructure projects in the city of Bengaluru. On behalf of the Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE), The Superintending Engineer invites bids from reputed Design, Print and Production House / Media House having experience in production and direction of short films/documentaries. Ads and other impressive social media Ads including computer graphic designs/VFX/CGI etc., for the projects given in the table below:

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1.	Consultancy Services for Preparation of Promotional Film with Computer graphics using Cine Camera including pre-production research, post production, voice recording to showcase futuristic and proposed Mega and Long term Infrastructure Projects of Bengaluru City - CALL-2 **Amount put to Tender (Excluding GST) : ₹.83.21Lakhs, EMD: 1.67 Lakhs**

Calendar of Events : (1) Date and time for Availability of Tender Documents in KPP Portal: **10.09.2025** at **4:30** pm (2) Date of Pre-bid Meeting is **17.09.2025** at **3.00** pm at the Office of Director (Technical), 1st Floor, Annex 2 Building, BBMP Head Office, N R Square, Bengaluru -02 (3) Last Date and time for Receipt of Tender Documents in KPP Portal on **25.09.2025** up to **4:00** pm. (4) Date and time Opening of Technical Bids is **26.09.2025** at **4:30** pm. (6) Date of Opening of Financial Bids will be intimated to Technically qualified Bidders.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer
Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited (B-SMILE)

NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY
(An Autonomus & Statutory body)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
5th Floor, TICEL Bio Park, CSIR Road, Taramani, Chennai - 600113. Ph: 044-22542777.

Applications are invited for filling up the following post on Deputation basis from amongst employees of Central and State Governments.

ACCOUNTS OFFICER - Gr.A
in Pay Matrix Level - 10 (Rs.56100 - Rs.177500)

Eligibility: (a) **1.** Holding analogous post on regular basis (OR) **2.** Holding post in the Pay Matrix Level-8 or equivalent on regular basis for at least two years (OR) **3.** Holding post in the Pay Matrix Level-7 or equivalent on regular basis for at least Five years and
(b) Having experience in the relevant field of Accounts & Finance.
Last date for receipt of applications: **29.09.2025.**
For detailed application format, Please refer to NBA website **www.nbaindia.org**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
MINOR IRRIGATION AND GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Minor Irrigation and Ground water development
Divison, Mandya, E mail: eemimandya@gmail.com

No.EE-MID/MDY/TA/AE/TB/2025-26/1143 Dt:06.09.2025

SHORT TENDER NOTIFICATION NO: 07/2025-26, Dated: 06-09-2025

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, Executive Engineer, M.I & G.W.D Division, Mandya invited item wise Tender from eligible contractors under " KPP " Portal as per the terms and conditions prescribed in standard tender bid documents KW-1 and KW-4 Under the Head of Account 4702-SCP Lift Irrigation Schemes, 4702 Anecut and Pickups, 4702 – Modernization of Tanks and 4702 – SCP & TSP there are 21 No's of works, amount put to tender ranging from Rs. 2.03 Lakhs to as high as Rs. 350.00 Lakhs.
Any information regarding this tender may be obtained from this office on or before dated: 25-09-2025 during Working hours. The tenders may be uploaded (Technical and Financial bids to be uploaded separately) with the prescribed E.M.D and requisite documents through website "www.kppp.karnataka.govt.in " before 26-09-2025 up to 17-00 Hours. Technical bids of the bidders will be opened on 29-09-2025 at 11-00 Hours. Financial bids of the eligible bidders will be opened on 30-09-2025 at 17-30 Hours.
Note: All the rights and decisions if any of all works or any of the work of this tender reserved by the under signed. Terms and conditions required for each work is published in the " www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in " Tender Portal. Any additional information is available at the office of the undersigned. Any corrections /Date Changes/ Addendum and Corrigendum regarding each individual works will be published separately in " kpp " portal only.

Sd/-Executive Engineer,
MI & GWD Division, Mandya.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಸನಿ–ಮಂ/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಐ&ಎ/427/2025–26

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
 # 49, 4th & 5th Floor, East Wing, Khanija Bhavan, Race Course Road, Bengaluru - 560 001. Phone No. 080-22267905 website : www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/JDTP/EIA/ETND-EC-07/619/2025-26 Date: 09.09.2025

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER TO PROVIDE CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR OBTAINING ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE (EC)
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB is inviting tender under two cover systems for providing consultancy services from Environmental Consultant of NABET under 7(C) category with NABET & NABL Accredited Consultant/ NABET consultancy MoU with NABL Accredited Consultant are eligible to participate in this tenders.
Name of the work: Providing Consultancy Services for preparing EIA, SIS studies etc., to obtain Environmental Clearance (EC) from State Environmental Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) and Consent for Establishment (CFE) from Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) and submission of Half yearly compliance report for all the conditions of EC & CFE for 3 years for the Ittagatti and Gamanagatti Industrial Area, Dharwad Taluk & Dharwad District in an extent of 148.50 Acres.
Last Date for submission of Tender: **25.09.2025** upto **4:00** pm.
Applicants May download bidding documents from the e-Procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Chief Engineer-2, KIADB, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/2741/CCL/2025-26

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ
ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಯಾದಗಿರ.

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಕಾಪಾಅ/ಪಂರಾಇಂ/ವಿಯಾ/5050/ಎಸ್ಸಿಪಿ&ಟಿಎಸ್ಪಿ/ಟೆ.ಪ್ರ/ತಾಸ–1/2025–26/1010 ದಿ: 08.09.2025

ಸಂಕ್ಷಿಪ್ತ ಟೆಂಡರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)

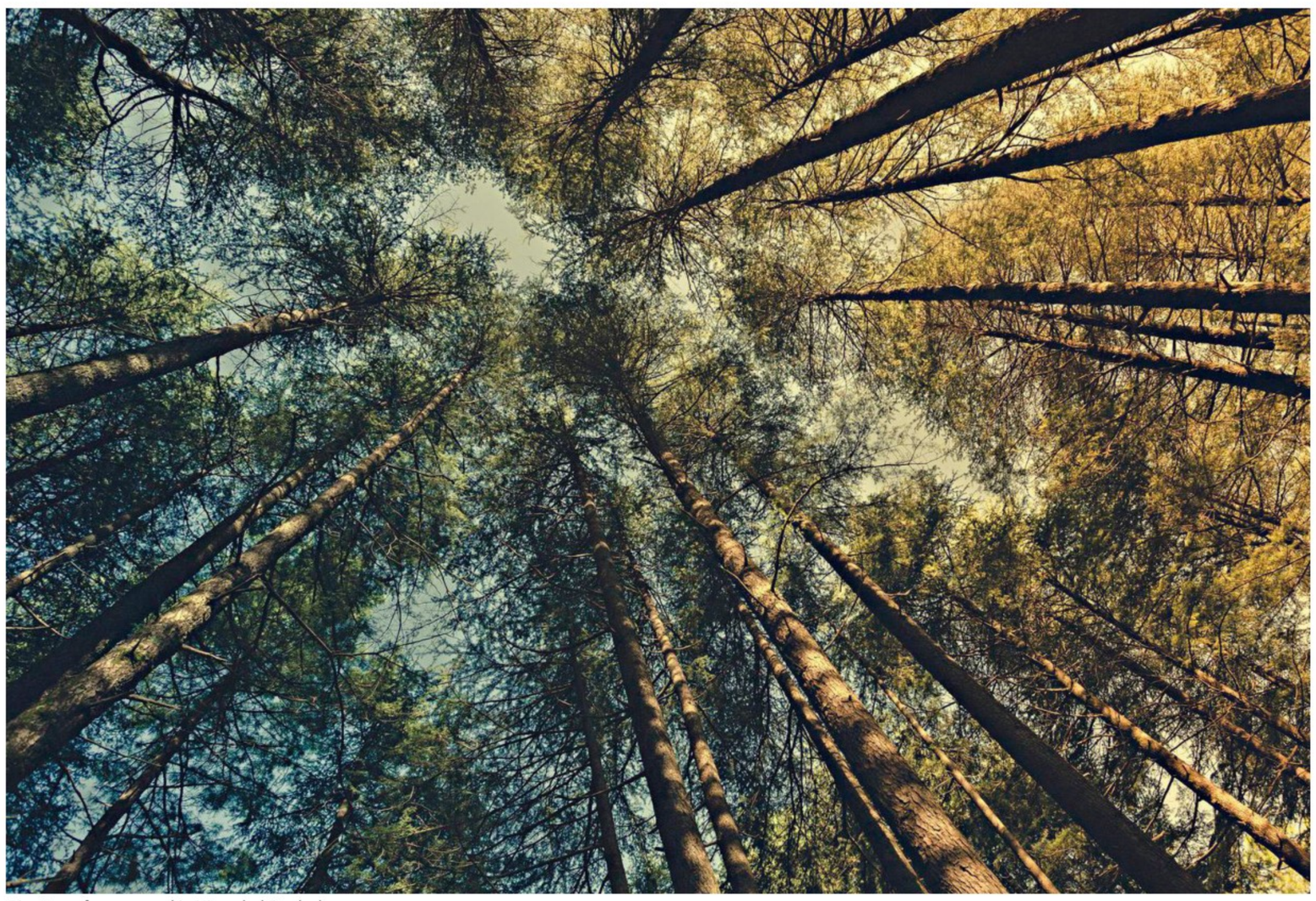
1) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ.:(1) ಸುರಪೂರ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಹುಲ್ಲಿಕೇರಾ ದೊಡ್ಡಿಯಿಂದ ಆಸ್ಕೇರದೊಡ್ಡಿಯ ಶಾಲೆಯ ವರೆಗೆ ಸಿ.ಸಿ. ರಸ್ತೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ (2) ಸುರಪೂರ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಪುಟ್ಟೇರದೊಡ್ಡಿಯಿಂದ ಮಲ್ಕೋಜಿಯರ ದೊಡ್ಡಿಯ ವರೆಗೆ ಸಿ.ಸಿ. ರಸ್ತೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ. ಇಂಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:– RDPR/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT17649/CALL-2 **2) ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ:** 2024–25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 5054 ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪಂಗಡ ಯೋಜನೆ 3) ಟೆಂಡರಿಗಿಟ್ಟ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ: ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಮತ್ತು ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ರೂ. 50.00 ಲಕ್ಷ 4) ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ದರ್ಜೆ :3ನೇ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟು ದರ್ಜೆ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟು 5)ಟೆಂಡರ ಫಾರಂ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ:09.09.2025 ರಿಂದ 16.09.2025 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4:00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ 6) ಟೆಂಡರ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ: ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿದಂತೆ (ಅರ್ಜಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಹಿಂದಿರುಗಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲಾ) 7) ಟೆಂಡರ ಫಾರಂ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 16.09.2025 ಸಾಯಂಕಾಲ 4:00 ಗಂಟೆವರೆಗೆ 8) ಟೆಂಡರ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ: 18.09.2025 ಬೆಳ್ಳಿಗೆ 11:00 ನಂತರ 9) ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ವಿಳಾಸ (ಕಛೇರಿ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ): ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಯಾದಗಿರ. 10) ಅಂತರಜಾಲ ತಾಣದ ವಿಳಾಸ :https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

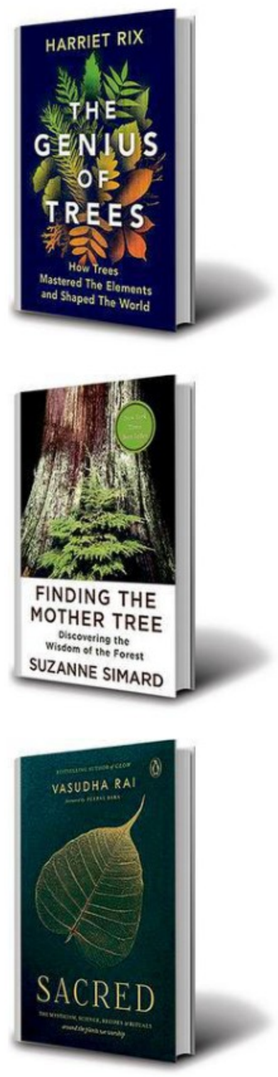
ಸೂಚನೆ: ಟೆಂಡರರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂದಿಸಿದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಕಛೇರಿ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು (ರಜಾದಿನಗಳು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ).

ಸಹಿ/–ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಯಾದಗಿರ.

ವಾ.ಸಾ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಯಾದಗಿರಿ/274/ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ಎಂ.ಪಿ.ಎ/2025–26

BIBLIOGRAPHY





Pine trees from a wood in Himachal Pradesh. GETTY IMAGES

Wood wide web: trees have their own network to preserve life

What is a tree? When were trees born? Three books urge readers to think of trees not as passive, aesthetic entities but as key shapers of the environment. Trees are rain-makers above ground and redistributors of water underground, among other contributions

Sudhirendar Sharma

It is easy to think of trees as passive entities with limited mobility, the essential green in the biodiversity of life. But as new research shows, the environmental benefits of trees – air cleaning, prevention of flooding, sequestration of carbon dioxide – are side-effects of trees' abilities to shape the environment. There is a tendency to take trees for granted for their environmental and aesthetic values. It is so despite the fact that any of the tree species which have evolved over thousands of years carries a common ecological narrative. Amongst many environmental services on offer, the amazing property of trees is that they can not only bring water down from the sky, but can send it back up as transpiration too.

But to assume that trees have only a limited role is to belittle their existence. Conversely, it is amazing how trees have done more as blind explorers beneath the soil to communicate and cooperate not only with themselves but with other species too. It is only in recent times that this quality is being studied. In the process, trees have emerged as the original terraformers, breaking down barren rock to create soil, channelling water into rivers, and releasing oxygen into an atmosphere previously inhospitable to complex life. Without trees, the earth would have literally been a desert.

This hasn't been a passive process in itself. Trees have, over millennia, exerted control over fundamental elements – water, air, fire, and the ground beneath. Element by element, trees have learned to control water, air, fire and the ground beneath, as well as fungi, plants, animals, and even people, shaping them according to their 'tree-ish' agenda. According to tree researcher Harriet Rix, (*The Genius of Trees*, 2025, Bodley Head) trees are not victims of change but agents of change in a grand ecological narrative. They are undoubtedly leading actors in the great drama of life on earth. "When modern humans evolved about 40,000 years ago, there were an estimated six trillion trees on the planet. By the time we appeared on the scene, trees had already altered the planet's air, changed the flow of water, used fire as a tool and built relationships with the plants and animals around them," writes Rix.

Vital consciousness

Recent scientific research has illuminated the intricate relationship trees maintain with their surroundings. For the better part of almost 400 million years, trees have been some of the largest organisms on land.

While early research highlights the interesting exchange of resources through what is often dubbed the 'wood wide web' – some interpretations have ventured into anthropomorphism and human-like emotions being transmitted to trees. How have trees done this is perhaps the story to understand.

Do trees have consciousness? The work of Suzanne Simard (*Finding the Mother Tree: Discovering the Wisdom of the Forest*, 2021, Allen Lane) is worth mentioning here wherein she gives anthropomorphic claims that trees 'talk' to and 'love' one another. It is like putting a nurturing mammalian face on to the giants of the forest to unfold the complexities of a system. The arboreal history also reveals how these passive organisms fundamentally reshaped the planet. Billions of years ago, these early plants embarked on an evolutionary journey culminating in the majestic trees that dominate landscapes worldwide.

Trees are more than what they may seem to the naked eye. Recent research has enlisted the role of trees in shaping the crucial elements of the ecosystem viz., water, air, soil, plants, and animals. Although all elements are equally important, trees have an endearing effect on rainfall and water flows above and below them. The anatomy of trees is more tightly engineered than a human body, because rather than moving to avoid drought and flood, trees control their own environment to counter any emerging situation.

Above the ground, trees are rain-makers and under, their roots collect and redistribute water. And in between, the tree can control and use the water within itself. But the core question remains: does water enable the trees or do the trees enable the water? A little bit of both – and when the climate changes around them, trees tend to get better at shaping water.

Innate value

Scientists argue that there is a reason why we find the smell of wood so comforting, and like to press our noses between the pages of books. A little over fifty species of trees constitute 'divine' trees – trees based on our faiths and traditions. Vasudha Rai's *Sacred: The Mysticism, Science, Recipes and Rituals* (Ebury 2025) does not investigate such divine antecedents but reflects on the values ascribed to trees like peepal, banyan, rudraksha and deodar. Why are these trees considered invaluable? What is the scientific basis of such a belief?

An acclaimed author on wellness, who connects traditions with contemporary living, Rai goes into the science of it. Blending spiritual wisdom with scientific research, she provides new insights on our symbiotic relationship with trees. What makes divine botany interesting is the manner in which it outlines ancient mysticism, modern science, and enlists recipes to build the narrative that helps reconnect with trees.

Exploring and reviving this subject is not without reason. It is about revisiting our reverence for the green cover which has reached such a crescendo that we are devoted to the intangible god but do not respect tangible manifestations of the divine.

In reality, every plant must be seen as sacred because every plant species supports some bacteria, insects, bees, birds and mammals. According to ancient scriptures, every leaf and blade of grass, branch and the trunk is home to nature spirits. There is an ancient tale in which a guru asks his disciple to go into the forest and find a plant that has no use. The disciple comes back empty-handed because he cannot find a single plant that had no use.

Sudhirendar Sharma is an independent writer, researcher and academic.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

On the 208th birth anniversary of Carl Zeiss, the German optician whose name became synonymous with precision lenses, here's a quiz on his life, work and legacy

Prathmesh Kher

QUESTION 1
What was the first product manufactured in Carl Zeiss's workshop in Jena?

QUESTION 2
Which mathematician cum physicist did Zeiss bring in during the 1860s to apply theoretical science to microscope design?

QUESTION 3
What unusual policy did Zeiss impose regarding microscopes that failed to meet quality standards?

QUESTION 4
Carl Zeiss provided two major welfare measures for his workers long before they became common in industry. Name them.

QUESTION 5
What was Carl Zeiss's declared philosophy regarding the relationship between craftsmanship and science in instrument making?

Visual question:
What is the connection between this movie still and Carl Zeiss?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. The term when a player wins the four majors in all three disciplines a player is eligible for. **Ans: Boxed set**
2. In the history of men's tennis, only these two players have won the calendar Grand Slam. **Ans: Don Budge, Rod Laver**
3. Only these two players have achieved a "Surface Slam". **Ans: Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal**
4. The only player who has won a non-calendar year grand slam. **Ans: Novak Djokovic**
5. This female tennis player equals Novak Djokovic with 24 grand slam singles wins. **Ans: Margaret Court**
6. This player went almost six years without a loss on clay. **Ans: Chris Evert**
Visual: Identify this player. **Ans: Maureen Connolly; she is the only player in history to win a title without losing a set at all four major championships**
Early Bird: Apoorvha K.C.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian
S. Upendran

"The roads are really bad, aren't they?"
"Yes, the rain has caused many damages."
"The rain has caused much damage. The word 'damage' doesn't take 'many' before it. It is preceded by 'much'."
"I see. So, is it O.K to say the fast bowlers caused much damage on the wet pitch?"
"Sounds O.K. to me. Here's another example. The earthquake didn't cause much damage."
"I cannot say, the earthquake didn't cause much damages, right?"
"You're right."
"I see. Sujatha called Gopa a 'blockhead' the other day. What does it mean?"
"Why don't you guess."
"Considering the fact that Sujatha and Gopa hate each other, I would say it's not something complimentary."
"Go on."
"Does blockhead mean an idiot or something?"
"Good guess. When you call someone a 'blockhead' you're saying that he/she is stupid. It's an informal word. For example, my old boss was a blockhead."
"Is your new boss a blockhead too?"
"Don't be a blockhead. I am definitely not going to tell you if my new boss is a blockhead or not."
"Which probably means that he is a blockhead."
"I didn't say that!"
"You didn't have to! But tell me, where does the word blockhead come from?"
"There was a time when wigs were fashionable in Europe..."
"...I want to know where the word 'blockhead' comes from. I'm not interested in wigs."
"Patience, my dear friend, patience!"
"I don't have much of that. Please, continue."
"As I was saying, in the good old days wearing wigs was a fashion. And what do you think a person did with a wig when he wasn't wearing it?"
"He probably kept it in his cupboard."
"If he did that then the wig would have lost its shape. And the owner would have had a problem wearing it."
"So what did the owner do so that the wig didn't lose its shape?"
"He placed it on a block of wood that was shaped like his head."
"I see. Since the block of wood was shaped like the owner's head, I guess it helped retain the shape of the wig."
"Exactly! And because this block of wood was shaped like a human head, it was called a blockhead."
"That makes sense. So, a blockhead is actually something on which you place a wig."
"Yes, that's right."
"And since this block of wood had nothing inside it, the word blockhead began to be applied to those who didn't have anything inside their heads."
"Precisely! You're pretty smart. You're not a blockhead after all!"
Published in The Hindu on January 27, 1998.

Word of the day

Conscientious:
characterised by extreme care and great effort; guided by or in accordance with conscience or sense of right and wrong

Synonyms: painstaking, scrupulous

Usage: *It was a conscientious decision to speak out about injustice.*

Pronunciation: newsth.live/conscientiouspro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˌkɒnʃiˈɛnʃəs/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

HC recommends Centre to increase maintenance payable to parents

'Ceiling of ₹10,000 per month fixed 18 years ago under Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act is too meagre in present cost inflation index. In the year 2007-08, the cost inflation index stood at 129; today, it is 363'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has recommended the Central government to revise the ceiling on the maintenance to be paid to senior citizens by their children or relatives, from the existing ₹10,000 per month fixed 18 years ago under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, in tune with the present cost of living index.

"Maintenance cannot remain a mirage shimmering in the desert of inflation, nor an oasis that vanishes on approach. Relief that is illusory is no relief at all. It is, but a rope of sand, incapable of sustaining those for whom it is meant. Therefore, this Court deems it fit to recommend, with earnestness that the Union government revisit Section 9 of the 2007 Act, and revise the ceiling in tune with the cost of living index, so that the Act may not be reduced to a hollow promise, but remain a living guarantee of dignity in old age, as the nation's wealth is not measured by its material progress, but by the welfare of the child and the care of the elderly-old...," said Justice M. Nagaprasanna.

Though the Act had undergone several amendments between 2007 and 2023, the provision that limits ceiling on payment of maintenance to senior citizens has remained the same from past 18 years, the court noted. GETTY IMAGES

Though the Act had undergone several amendments between 2007 and 2023, the provision that limits ceiling on payment of maintenance to senior citizens has remained the same from past 18 years, the court noted while pointing out that ₹10,000 cannot be enough to achieve the real intent of the enactment.

Citing the graph of cost inflation index as found in the website of the Ministry of Finance, the court said: "The numbers tell a tale, more eloquent, than words. In the year 2007-08 the cost inflation index stood at 129; today, it is 363. Thus, what one could procure for ₹100/- in 2007, requires nearly a ₹1,000/- in 2025. Prices of food, shelter and medicine have climbed steeply; only the statutory cap of ₹10,000/- has remained petrified, untouched, notwithstanding the march of time."

"Can maintenance so meagre, achieve the objects of the Act? Can a citizen secure dignity, subsistence and medical aid within the confines of Section 9 of the Act?, requires pondering, so to say otherwise would be to reduce the existence of those senior citizens as a mere animal existence," the court observed.

As the objective of the Act was primarily threefold - (i) need based maintenance to the parents and senior citizens, (ii) to provide better medical facilities and (iii) suitable mechanism for protection, the court said that the enactment, therefore was to be a need based, and securing the need for a senior citizen cannot be seen to remain the same as it was in 2007.

"Cost of living inflation has increased exponentially. With the inflation index today, what a senior citizen would have got in 2007 is reduced by 10% today even to the medical facilities. Therefore, the amount of ₹10,000/-, that is now subsisting, cannot be enough to achieve the real intent of the enactment," the court said.

The court made these observation while setting aside an order passed passed by a tribunal, which asked the children to pay ₹5 lakh as compensation to their parents as there is no provision in the Act to grant compensation.

₹30,000 per month

While directing children to pay maintenance of ₹10,000 per month from April 2021, the date of award by the tribunal, the court remitted the matter back to the tribunal for fresh consideration. However, the court directed the children to pay ₹30,000 per month each to their parents from September 2025 as maintenance to their parents till the tribunal reconsiders the matter.

Meeting on Sept. 16 to discuss confusion in new roster; DPAR asked to review

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The confusion regarding the internal reservation appears to persist, as a meeting has been convened for September 16 to discuss the problems with the new roster announced by the State government following notification of the internal reservation among the Scheduled Castes.

The meeting had been convened, involving the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (DPAR), the Social Welfare Department, and representatives of the State government, as well as the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Employees Association, which had complained to the government. The association had stated that the new roster favoured the general category, and the roster points for the Scheduled Tribes and Holeyas had been adjusted to favour general category employees.

"While the first roster issued on September 3 had many mistakes, another roster was issued with vertical and horizontal reservation on September 6, which too has a problem and is against the order issued in 1977," said association president D. Chandrashekaraiah.

The new roster had been notified after the internal reservation of 6% each to Dalit Left and Dalit Right, and 5% to Korama, Koracha, Lambani and Bhovi, along with microscopic communities, was notified by the government.

Roster rules

The Principal Secretary to the Social Welfare Department, P. Manivannan, has also written to the DPAR Secretary K.G. Jagadish, drawing his attention to the deviation in the roster rules that were notified in December 2022.

He also brought the association's arguments to the notice of DPAR, which had issued the new roster.

"Review the roster as per rules. Take swift action in revising the order with the coordination of the Social Welfare department," Mr. Manivannan said in his letter.

Internal quota: Woman tries to immolate herself during protest

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

High drama prevailed at Freedom Park here when a woman, who was part of the protest against internal reservation matrix among SC communities, tried to immolate herself at the protest venue amidst thousands of protesters who had gathered to demand an increase in reservation quota for their communities.

She poured diesel on herself from a bottle. However, the protesters around her prevented the woman from torching herself and took her away.

The incident occurred where Korma, Koracha, Lambani and Bhovi community members were protesting against the H. N. Nagmohan Das Commission's report on internal reservation.

They demanded scrapping of the internal reservation matrix, which the government modified and seeks to implement, during the Cabinet meeting scheduled to be held on Thursday.

Angry protesters dislodged the barricades put up by the police and blocked the road besides burning effigies, demanding that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah or the Social Welfare Minister H.C. Mahadevappa come to the spot to hear their grievances. They later tried to march towards Vidhana Soudha. The police had a tough time controlling the protesters and easing traffic movement.

Traffic disruption

Traffic from Anand Rao Circle to K.R. Circle was disrupted as hundreds of vehicles were stranded due to the unexpected development on the busy road during the peak hour.

Former BJP legislator P. Rajeev said that the government had come up with its own formula and this would cause injustice to the communities that had suffered discrimination for centuries.

The protesters demanded that the slicing up of the matrix should be done scientifically.

The protest was led by State BJP president, B.Y. Vijayendra, and Mr. Rajeev.

FIR against businessman for cheating realtor of ₹31 cr.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Central Crime Branch police have registered a case against city based businessman for allegedly cheating a realtor of ₹31.3 crore after promising land and business leads.

Based on the complaint, the police have registered an FIR against Syed Farhatullah Javed and 11 of his associates on charges of cheating, impersonation, and criminal breach of trust.

The accused allegedly flaunted having 'high-level contacts' and even introduced Mr. Jain to people claiming to be govt. officials

The victim, Suresh Jain, owner of a real estate company was allegedly approached by Javed with an offer to get prime land situated on the outskirts of the city and in Goa for cheaper rates.

The allegedly accused flaunted having "high-level contacts" and even introduced Mr. Jain to people claiming to be officials with the Bengaluru district commissioner office and the Directorate of Enforcement.

He introduced his associates as top executives of corporate offices and IT companies and owners of the prime properties.

Trusting him, Mr. Jain agreed to invest and transfer money to the tune of ₹31.34 to different bank accounts after fake sale deeds and agreements for the joint development ventures signed since January 2021 to July 2024.

The cheating came to light when Mr. Jain realised that things were not moving.

Upon verification it was found that Javed had roped in his relatives and friends to introduce them as government officials, ED officers and even owners of the properties to Mr. Jain.

When the complainant confronted Javed, he started giving evasive responses to buy time to set right things and later escaped, he alleged.

Based on the complaint, the police have charged Javed, his wife, relatives and associates, who are now on the run.

FIR against Facebook user for disrespecting Mahatma Gandhi

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The cybercrime police have registered an FIR against a Facebook account holder for allegedly disrespecting Mahatma Gandhi in his post on Teachers' Day.

Based on a complaint by the staff of the social media monitoring cell, the police, on September 8, 2025, booked the accused who runs the account "Akhanda Hindustan", charging him under Section 66 (C) (identity theft) of the IT Act and

The post allegedly wished all teachers, 'except those who taught us Mahatma Gandhi got us freedom'

also under Section 354 (coerced or manipulated into performing actions) of BNS for further investigation. The former seeks to penalise any person who fraudulently or dishonestly uses another person's electronic signature, password, or other unique identification feature.

While monitoring social media, the staff came across the post which was uploaded on September 5, 2025. The post allegedly wished all teachers on Teachers' Day, "except those who taught us Mahatma Gandhi got us freedom".

This, according to the complaint, was derogatory and could spread fake news and propaganda to create disturbance in society. The post was also liked and shared by many people, which is also part of the probe.

Jayadeva institute gets new director

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government on Wednesday appointed B. Dinesh as the director of the Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research.

Dr. Dinesh, currently working as Professor of Cardiology at Jayadeva's Mysuru unit, was among the three front runners for the director's post. The appointment of a regular director for the institute that was scheduled to be finalised last Thursday had

Dr. B. Dinesh

been kept in abeyance following a stay obtained by one of the 11 aspirants who were interviewed by the selection committee last week.

Man arrested for killing second wife

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Yelahanka New Town police have arrested a construction labourer for allegedly bludgeoning his wife to death over a domestic row at their rented house on August 3.

The accused Saidulu had escaped to Rajahmundry, from where the police arrested him on Tuesday.

According to the police, Saidulu married the deceased Ameema in 2019 and had hidden from her his first marriage.

Warden arrested after minor boy is ragged, harassed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bannerghatta police on Wednesday arrested the warden of a private school hostel for allegedly failing to prevent the ragging of a minor schoolboy despite his complaint to him and the principal.

The victim, was reportedly ragged by a group of five PU students, who were staying in the same hostel, for four days between August 3 and August 6 .

When he raised a complaint with the warden and the school principal, they allegedly called the accused students and issued a warning.

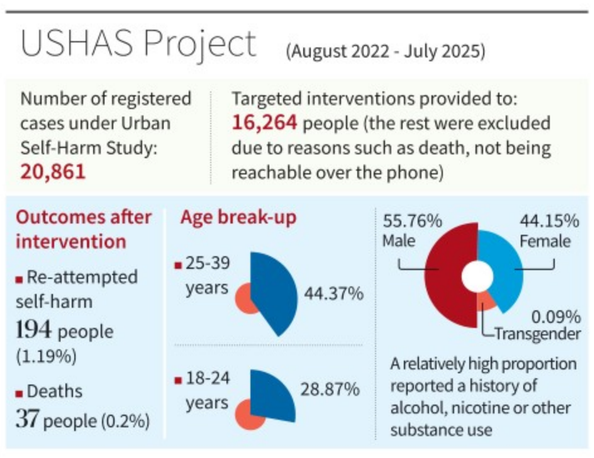
Enraged by the complaint, the accused allegedly ragged the victim again by disrobing him, forcing him to dance, and sexually harassed and assaulted him.

Unable to bear the harassment, the victim narrated his ordeal with his parents, following which a complaint was filed with the Bannerghatta police on Monday.

The police have registered a case against five students, the warden and principal charging them under the POCSO Act.

Study registers over 20,000 self-harm cases in 16 public hospitals

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU


USHAS Project (August 2022 - July 2025)
Number of registered cases under Urban Self-Harm Study: 20,861
Targeted interventions provided to: 16,264 people (the rest were excluded due to reasons such as death, not being reachable over the phone)
Outcomes after intervention
Re-attempted self-harm 194 people (1.19%)
Deaths 37 people (0.2%)
Age break-up
25-39 years 44.37%
18-24 years 28.87%
55.76% Male
44.15% Female
0.09% Transgender
A relatively high proportion reported a history of alcohol, nicotine or other substance use

The Urban Self-Harm Study (USHAS) being conducted under N-SPRITE (NIMHANS Suicide Prevention, Research, Implementation, Training and Engagement Centre) in collaboration with the State government has registered 20,861 self-harm cases in 16 government hospitals across 11 districts of Karnataka from August 2022 till July 2025.

Of these, following interventions only 194 people (1.19%) re-attempted self-harm, and within this small group, 37 people (0.2%) died.

According to the findings of the study presented at an event organised to mark World Suicide Prevention Day and first anniversary of N-SPRITE at NIMHANS on Wednesday, targetted interventions including risk screening, brief counseling, and structured follow-up support, could be provided only to 16,264 individuals. The remaining were excluded due to death or non-availability for follow-up. Under USHAS, self-harm registries are established to record the details of persons arriving at the 16 hospitals' emergency departments after a self-harm/suicide attempt. Further, they are screened for suicide risk, their characteristics studied, and brief interventions with telephone-based follow-up facilitated to reduce their future self-harm/suicide attempts. The project has also incorporated a component named YASHAS (Youth Mental Health and Self-Harm Study) for youth-focused suicide prevention.

"Following the interventions, we have recorded significant outcomes that are encouraging: only 194 people (1.19%) re-attempted self-harm, and within this small group, 37 people (0.2%) died. By comparison, global studies suggest that more than 10% of individuals who attempt self-harm are at risk of dying by suicide," said Anish V. Cherian, Additional Professor at the Department of Psychiatric Social Work at NIMHANS and lead of N-SPRITE.

Young more vulnerable

Underlining the vulnerability of younger populations, Dr. Cherian, who presented the findings, said that 44.37% of these self-harm cases belong to the 25 to 39 age group, followed by 28.87% in the 18 to 24 years bracket. Men accounted for 55.76% of the cases, women for 44.15%, and 0.09% identified as transgender persons. A significant proportion reported a history of alcohol consumption, nicotine or other substance use. The model demonstrated how even limited interventions could drastically reduce repeat attempts, he said.

According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Karnataka continues to grapple with a high suicide rate of 20.2%, well above the national average of 12.4%. The State records over 13,600 suicides annually, with Bengaluru ranking third among India's mega cities for suicides. Against this backdrop, targeted initiatives under N-SPRITE, particularly USHAS, have provided measurable results in suicide prevention, Dr. Cherian said.

Women-centric triggers

The project has also shed light on women-centric health issues as triggers among youth. Dysmenorrhea, premenstrual syndrome (PMS), premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD), and postpartum complications were reported as significant contributing factors. Recognising this, USHAS has incorporated a youth-focused component, YASHAS (Youth Mental Health and Self-Harm Study), to design interventions more tailored to younger populations, the doctor said.

"These outcomes show the value of structured follow-up. More than one in 10 individuals who attempt self-harm can eventually die by suicide. Under USHAS, that figure has been brought down to negligible levels through consistent handholding," said Pratima Murthy, NIMHANS director.

Uma Mahadevan, Karnataka's Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner, and Rajani Parthasarathy, State Deputy Director (Mental Health) spoke about various initiatives by the State government to expand mental health services to the grassroots and in rural areas.

Amid unrest, over 200 tourists from State stranded in Nepal's capital take shelter in restobars

State govt. to facilitate their return to Bengaluru; Union govt. arranges flights between Delhi and Kathmandu on Wednesday evening; two more flights scheduled for today. Tour operators reworking to offer alternative destinations to customers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Over 200 tourists from Karnataka, who had been waiting at Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu for evacuation until Tuesday afternoon, have since been forced to move to restobars, the only places still open, after being asked to vacate their hotels and the airport.

The Chief Secretary's office here and the Resident Commissioner of Karnataka Bhavan in New Delhi have been in touch with the travellers.

An official stated that the State government is working on an evacuation plan, which, as of Wednesday evening, had not been finalised.

"There are several challenges involved, and the team is addressing them," the official added.

Meanwhile, sources confirmed that the State government will facilitate the return of the tourists from Karnataka to Bengaluru after they are evacuated from Kathmandu to New Delhi. This follows the Union government arranging flights to and from New Delhi and Kathmandu on Wednesday evening, with two more scheduled for Thursday morning.

Passengers gather at the entrance of the Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu after it reopened on Wednesday. AFP

No shelter or food

On Tuesday morning, several hotels in Kathmandu asked that the guests leave, citing concerns that escalating tensions could put occupants at risk.

Following this, many tourists, including a group from Samrat Tours and a 130-member team from Karnataka that arrived on August 25 for a Manasarovar tour from the Isha Foundation, left for the airport in hopes of being evacuated.

Travellers told *The Hindu* that they were initially informed that an IndiGo flight would operate on Tuesday.

By Wednesday morning, however, they were informed that multiple clearances were still pending, and they could not remain at the airport.

"With hotels about 30 minutes away and no commute options available, we had no choice but to find shelter in bars and restaurants, which are not in service. Food, medical shops, and other services have all been shut down. We have been moving from one bar to another since Tuesday evening," said Rajani Maski, a traveller from Karnataka.

Some were accompanied for part of the way by military vehicles, while others walked in groups of two and three. The streets felt unsafe, with youths rushing on two-wheelers, she added.

Many tourists also said that they had to band together with fellow Indians from Mumbai and New Delhi, mainly to have someone who could speak Hindi and help with communication and finding their way to nearby safe places. With no food stalls open, several also reported going for long hours without food, which left them feeling nauseous and anxious.

Travel plans disrupted

S. Mahalingaiah from the Karnataka Tourism Society said tours scheduled to begin on September 14 for five nights and six days have been cancelled or diverted to other destinations, including Sri Lanka and Rishikesh.

Several families in Bengaluru who had already booked their Nepal trips for the coming weeks, for trekking and a holy visit, have called off their plans, unwilling to take the risk amid uncertainty.

Tour operators confirmed that itineraries were being reworked to offer alternative destinations to customers, many of whom had been preparing for Nepal visits for months.

Vijayendra demands judicial probe into Maddur violence

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

State BJP president B.Y. Vijayendra, on Wednesday, criticised the State government, holding it responsible for the clashes that occurred on Sunday during the Ganesha festival procession in Maddur. He sought a judicial inquiry into the matter.

Speaking to reporters in Maddur, Mr. Vijayendra said that the intelligence officials and the police should have anticipated the violence and deployed adequate security measures to thwart it. He challenged the State government to invoke the provisions of the Goonda Act against those who indulged in stone pelting during the Sunday's procession and condemned the FIR registered allegedly against the Hindus, including a woman.

Referring to Home Minister G. Parameshwara's statements that the clash was a minor incident, Mr. Vijayendra urged the former to pay a visit to Maddur to apprise himself of the ground situation.

Referring to the presence of senior party leaders in Maddur, Mr. Vijayendra said the BJP was not alone, and even the Janata Dal (Secular) workers were supportive of the pro-Hindu groups, which took out the procession. "Our presence is to infuse courage in them," said Mr. Vijayendra. He hit out at the district in-charge Minister N. Cheluvarayaswamy for making "objectionable remarks'', and the Chief Minister for blaming the BJP for allegedly disturbing communal harmony.

"When stones were stockpiled or conspiracies were being hatched, the government should have woken up then. Instead, it is now blaming the Hindus and the BJP," he alleged, adding that the State government's approach to the law and order situation had led to the incident.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly, R. Ashok, spoke in a similar vein. He alleged that the Congress was letting the perpetrators of violence go scot-free, and hence, there was a recurrence of stone pelting incidents. He accused the Congress of pursuing a "policy of appeasement" and indulging in "vote-bank politics'' to remain in power.

Describing the Maddur incident as a ''preplanned'' act, Mr. Ashok said the intelligence department should have anticipated it and prepared adequately to foil such attempts at the time of immersion

R. Ashok, Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly, BJP State president B.Y. Vijayendra, and other leaders of the party meeting officials in Maddur of Mandya district on Wednesday.

BJP is indulging in 'divisive politics': DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Wednesday accused the BJP of "engaging in politics" and "dividing people" in the wake of the stone pelting incident during a Ganesha idol immersion procession in Maddur town of Mandya district. He also called on the Opposition party leaders to secure the State's share of funds and clearance for various projects from the Centre.

Mr. Shivakumar was responding to a query about the BJP delegation, comprising its State chief, B.Y. Vijayendra, Leaders of the Opposition, R. Ashok and Chalavadi Narayanaswamy, and other leaders, visiting the trouble-hit Maddur on Wednesday. Speaking to reporters, he said: "They [the BJP leaders] don't have any job other than indulging in politics, dividing people and inciting fire. They have nothing else to do."

"The BJP is not bothered about development. They are interested only in politics. Let them get clearances for pending irrigation projects in the State and also get funds from the Centre for stalled projects in the State," he added.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Food and Civil Supplies Minister K.H. Muniyappa, during a departmental meeting at the Chief Minister's Home Office, Krishna, in Bengaluru on Wednesday.

CM to officials: Install GPS to track vehicles supplying foodgrains

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday instructed officials of the Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department to ensure that vehicles supplying foodgrains are equipped with a GPS tracking system to plug leaks. He also asked the officials to install CCTV cameras in all godowns throughout the State.

Mr. Siddaramaiah, who reviewed the functioning of the department, said that strict action should be taken to remove ineligible BPL cards in the State, while ensuring that no inconvenience is caused to eligible BPL cardholders. "If any eligible ones have been left out, action should be taken to issue BPL cards to them," he instructed the officials.

A total of 3,65,614 ration cards have been cancelled/changed in the category among the already identified ineligible BPL ration cardholders. He said that action should be taken to provide new fair price shops to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities on a priority basis.

The procurement process of food grains should be carried out in collaboration with primary agricultural cooperative societies and self-help groups under the Minimum Support Scheme. The Chief Minister said that appropriate action would be taken to recruit necessary staff in the department.

Earlier, Mr. Siddaramaiah reviewed the progress of government housing schemes and instructed the finance department officials to submit proposals for the allocation of necessary funds to complete the construction of houses under various schemes.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban), the construction of 47,848 houses, including those of the 43,874 houses sanctioned during the erstwhile Congress government from 2013 to 2018, is being undertaken. Of this, work on 13,303 houses had been completed and work on 25,815 houses is under progress.

The officials said that ₹134 crore has been collected from the beneficiaries. In the first phase, 7,900 houses have been almost completed, and the beneficiaries' contribution of ₹216 crore was pending. The officials were asked to prepare a suitable proposal for the payment of the pending amount.

Bengaluru to host three-day CPA conference from today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The three-day Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) India Region Conference will begin here on Thursday with an inaugural ceremony scheduled at the Vidhana Soudha. This is the first time Bengaluru is hosting the event.

Issues such as debates and discussions, as well as strengthening the public's confidence in the legislature, will be part of the deliberations.

"Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birala will chair the CPA Executive Committee in the Conference Hall at Vidhana Soudha, marking the commencement of the event. The event will be inaugurated on the grand steps of Vidhana Soudha in a grand function," Karnataka Legislative Assembly Speaker U.T. Khader told the presspersons here on Wednesday.

Former Speakers and Chairpersons of the Karnataka Legislature have been invited to the event, which is being organised under the guidance of the Lok Sabha Secretariat.

"Chief Minister Siddaramaiah will release a commemorative stamp on the occasion. Former Legislature Secretaries will be felicitated on the occasion," said Mr. Khader.

Among those likely to participate are Stephen Twigg, CPA General Secretary.

Delegates will be presented with kits curated with Mysuru sandalwood products, traditional saris for women and iPads, he said.

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ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ (ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)
ಮುಖ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಪುರಸಭೆ, ಬೊಮ್ಮಸಂದ್ರರವರಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 1999 & 2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ವಿವರಗಳಂತೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕವಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಹತೆ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಇಚ್ಛೆಯುಳ್ಳ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು/ಸರಬರಾಜುದಾರರು ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು. **ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಶಾಖೆಯಿಂದ ಮತ್ತು ಕಛೇರಿ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್: www.bommasandratown.mrc.gov.in ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.**

ಕ್ರ. ಸಂ	ವಿವರ	ಟೆಂಡರಿಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ (ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)
1	Indent No: DMA/2023-24/SE2626/CALL-2	ರೂ. 9,90,000/–	ರೂ. 24,750/–
2	Indent No: DMA/2025-26/SE5304	ರೂ. 43,67,000/–	ರೂ. 87,340/–
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2. ಕೆಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30.09.2025ರ 16.30 ಘಂಟೆಗೆ.**
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DEATH
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Dr. AMBIKA DEVI KASI
M.D (OSM)
DOB: 14-SEP-1948 DOD: 08-SEP-2025
Former Prof & Head of Biochemistry & Retired Vice Principal (Academic) - Osmania Medical College
Inserted By
Dr. G. Kishore Roy - *Husband*
Dr Geetha Geddam - *Daughter*
Capt. Karan Deep Geddam - *Son*
Dr. Venu Madhav Kondamudi - *Son In Law*
Tarang Kondamudi - *Grandson*

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DIPR/5047/Tender/2025

PUBLIC NOTICE
My clients **Sri. HANUMANTHA VENKATARAVANA**, Aged about 44 years, S/o. Late. Venkataravana, R/at. No. 30, 1st 'A' Cross, 2nd Phase, NRI Layout, Kalkere, Bangalore 560043., is intending to purchase the Schedule property from its owner, **Smt. ROOPASHREE.S**, W/o. Sri. M.S. Prasanna Kumar, Aged about 32 years, R/at. No 1086, Railway Station Road, Chamarajapete, Chikkabalapura Town, for Valuable Consideration. Any persons having any rights/claims/objections/Minor Claims, in respect of the schedule property are hereby requested to send their objections to the above mentioned address within 7 days, from the receipt of the this public notice. If no objections are forth coming within 7 days, my clients shall get executed sale deed in his favour.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the immovable property Land bearing Survey No. 16/4, (old Sy No. 16/3), the said land is Converted from agricultural to non-agricultural Industrial purpose (Converted vide official memorandum bearing No. LND 10014818, dated 12-05-2020, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Chikkabalapura, Situated at Koothanahalli Village, Mandikallu Hobli, Chikkabalapura Taluk, measuring 01 Acre and 02 Guntas Kharabu and bounded on the:
East by : Road,
West by : Kharab Land,
North by : Land belongs to Sri. C.V. Gurumurthy,
South by : Land belongs to Sri. Ashwathappa.
Mr. Manjunath Reddy, Smt. . Shobha Reddy,
No. 8/7, Mega City BEML Layout Road, Maragondanahalli Main Road, K.R. Puram Post, Bangalore-36. Ph:- 9845520830, 98450 14709.

PUBLIC NOTICE
The General Public are hereby informed that my client is intending to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from its owner **Mrs. Palakolanu Sushma Sri, D/o.Mr.Narayana Reddy,** R/at Main Road, Middela, Narasapura, YSR Kadapa District, Andhra Pradesh – 516217.
If any person/s or Institution, Authority, etc., have got any right, title, claim and interest of whatsoever in nature on the Schedule Property, are hereby required to communicate the same along with supporting documents to me at my office within **FIFTEEN (15) DAYS** from this day. Otherwise, the Sale Transaction will be completed without any reference or regard to any such purported claim or interest, which shall be deemed to have been waived to all intents and purposes.
SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY
Residential Property bearing Site No.21 and BBMP EPID No.157028089l, portion of BBMP Khata No.3260/128/7, carved out of Hi Tech Industrial converted land bearing Sy.No.128/7, measuring 1 Acre 32 Guntas, (2.08 Guntas Kharab Land), situated at Bhoganahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, presently comes under BBMP, measuring East to West 30 Feet and North to South 50 Feet, measuring 1500 Sq.Ft, along with entire residential building consisting of Ground Floor measuring 1200 Sq.Ft, First Floor measuring 1200 Sq.Ft, Second Floor measuring 1200 Sq.Ft, Third Floor measuring 1200 Sq.Ft, Fourth Floor measuring 1200 Sq.Ft, Fifth Floor measuring 1200 Sq.Ft, Sixth Floor measuring 1200 Sq.Ft, in all totally measuring about 7200 Sq.Ft of Builtup Area, constructed with Cement Wall, RCC Roofing, Vitrified Tiles Flooring, Common Wood Fittings for Doors and Windows, Electricity and Water Facility, bounded on:
East by : Site No.20;
West by : Site No.22;
North by : Site No.19 and 23;
South by : Bhoganahalli Road.
Mr. N.RAMALINGA REDDY, M.A., LLB, Advocate, No.91/1, II Floor, Versova Space, CV Raman Nagar, Bangalore – 560093. M: +91 - 9945576796 / 8019926164.

Kerala govt. plans medical insurance for expatriates

The policy is expected to enhance medical tourism in the State; it will provide cashless medical services of up to ₹5 lakh to non-resident Keralites in a network of over 17,000 hospitals in India

Dhinesh Kallungal
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Kerala government will float an exclusive medical insurance policy providing health cover for Keralites abroad and within the country. The policy is also expected to enhance medical tourism in the State.

The insurance policy will provide cashless medical services of up to ₹5 lakh to non-resident Keralites in a network of over 17,000 hospitals in the country, including around 470 hospitals in Kerala.

The policy, to be jointly launched by the New India Assurance, offers a personal accident claim of ₹10 lakh to the insured or his/her family. The policy is expected to benefit over four million Keralites abroad and within the country.

Ajith Kolassery, Chief Executive Officer of NoRKA-Roots, said the project, NoRKA Care, aimed to bring all expats under affordable medical care and insurance coverage in the country. The NoRKA-Roots is a field agency under the State government's Department of Non-Resident Keralites Affairs (NoRKA).

In many countries, especially in the United Kingdom and Canada, the waiting period for insurance coverage is too long and the cost of medical cover too high.

The new policy offers insurance coverage for all pre-existing diseases without any waiting period at a premium of ₹13,400 for a family unit of four, including two children, says Mr. Kolassery.

No age bar for children

Further, all non-resident Keralites in the age group of 18 to 70 with an identity proof issued by the NoRKA-Roots can join the policy, while there is no age restriction for dependent children.

The global launch of NoRKA Care will be done by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on September 22.

Care assured

The basic details of the medical insurance scheme for Keralites living within the country and abroad

- Policy offers ₹5 lakh cashless medical services in over 17,000 hospitals nationwide
- It provides ₹10 lakh personal accident cover, aiding four million Keralites worldwide
- Policy covers pre-existing diseases with a ₹13,400 premium for a family of four

All issues sorted out, say Khader, Horatti

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A day after the ire of the Legislative Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti over being ignored by Legislative Assembly Speaker U.T. Khader became public, the two seemed to have buried their differences.

The thaw in the relationship came after Mr. Khader visited the residence of Mr. Horatti on Wednesday morning. The meeting, held behind closed doors, lasted over 15 minutes.

Mr. Horatti, on Monday, wrote to Mr. Khader highlighting instances where he had been ignored and unilateral decisions taken.

His immediate grouse was that he had not been consulted before drawing up the tour programme for the Commonwealth conference being held at Barbados.

Mr. Khader responded, stating that no unilateral decisions had been taken. The letter became an embarrassment since it became public days before the commencement of the three-day Commonwealth Parliamentary Association India Region Conference in Bengaluru from Thursday.

However, on Wednesday after the meeting, the two leaders informed presspersons that there was miscommunication between their offices.

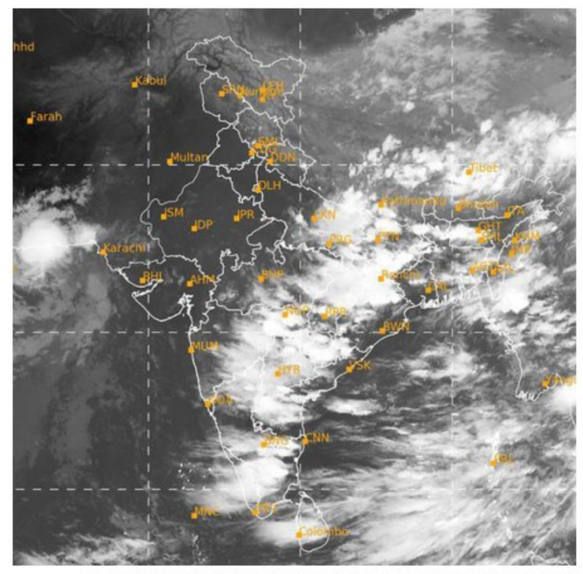
Mr. Horatti said that the miscommunication had taken place during his travel abroad, following which he had written the letter.

"Mr. Khader has clarified on issues with me now. Even our (Legislative Council) Secretary did not have information. He is young and I have affixed my signature to his work."

Mr. Khader also said that there was no confusion between them and all misunderstandings had been sorted out.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.15 HRS)

Forecast for Thursday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	0.2	34.4	26.8	Kozhikode	—	33.4	26.4
Ahmedabad	—	33.2	24.7	Kurnool	—	35.2	26.0
Aizawl	9.8	31.5	18.2	Lucknow	—	35.1	26.8
Allahabad	—	35.5	26.2	Madurai	0.2	38.0	26.2
Bengaluru	—	29.9	22.0	Mangaluru	—	30.9	24.5
Bhopal	42	30.4	23.2	Mumbai	—	31.0	24.3
Bhubaneswar	—	36.2	25.5	Mysuru	2	31.0	21.4
Chandigarh	—	34.0	25.2	New Delhi	—	34.4	25.9
Chennai	3.3	36.9	28.5	Patna	4.8	33.0	28.7
Coimbatore	—	33.2	24.0	Port Blair	48	27.4	23.0
Dehradun	3	33.0	24.5	Puducherry	—	34.7	25.9
Gangtok	10	22.6	18.8	Pune	—	33.1	22.9
Goa	—	32.0	24.6	Raipur	—	33.4	26.2
Guwahati	2	34.6	27.0	Ranchi	—	31.4	23.6
Hubballi	—	30.0	21.0	Shillong	0.5	24.0	19.8
Hyderabad	—	33.2	23.4	Shimla	—	25.2	19.8
Imphal	—	30.6	24.9	Srinagar	—	28.8	16.2
Jaipur	—	34.2	25.5	Thiruvananthapuram	—	33.2	25.6
Kochi	4	28.8	26.0	Tiruchi	—	37.1	25.4
Kohima	1	22.4	19.6	Vijayawada	—	35.5	25.4
Kolkata	—	36.0	28.0	Visakhapatnam	79	32.6	23.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO₂	NO₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	8	103	53	24	—	
Bengaluru	9	—	38	51	151	
Chennai	2	3	26	46	109	
Delhi	—	44	84	41	169	
Hyderabad	20	9	33	128	95	
Kolkata	7	56	18	62	62	
Lucknow	10	10	42	99	66	
Mumbai	3	19	11	47	114	
Pune	—	40	41	51	104	
Visakhapatnam	11	39	27	108	236	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 235 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 10

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

ED gets two-day custody of Satish Sail in money laundering case

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A day after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) arrested Congress MLA Satish Sail under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act , he was produced before the special court on Wednesday which granted two days custody to the ED.

Mr. Sail represents Karwar in the Legislative Assembly.

He was taken into custody on Tuesday evening after he arrived at the ED office in Bengaluru for questioning.

Mr. Sail, through his advocate, made a submission to allow him to use CPAP (continuous positive airway pressure) machine citing prolonged illness and sleep deprivation.

While granting permission, the court also directed the Enforcement Directorate to allow home food for Mr. Sail and instructed the agency against conducting late-night interrogation.

Earlier, the ED officials conducted searches on August 13 and 14 at multiple locations in Karwar, Goa, Mumbai and New Delhi under the provisions of Prevention on Money Laundering Act, related to the illegal mining case.

₹87,818 crore will be required for UKP phase-III: Siddaramaiah

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday said an estimated ₹87,818 crore would be required for implementation of the Upper Krishna Project Phase-III, which would increase the Almatti dam height from 519 metres to 524 metres.

He chaired a high-level meeting with Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who holds the Water Resources portfolio, and said the initial project cost for implementation of the project was estimated at ₹51,148 crore and it had now been revised to ₹87,818 crore.

Out of this, ₹17,627 crore was initially estimated for the land acquisition process. The current revised cost was ₹40,557.09 crore.

The revised cost for civil works of nine sub-projects related to the project was estimated at ₹25,122.53 crore.

The Chief Minister said that an appropriate decision would be taken in this regard at the Cabinet meeting.

By raising the dam height, he said, an additional 100 tmc ft of water would be stored, which would provide irrigation facilities to 5.94 lakh hectares.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, MIHIR Jivraj Hapaliya, f/o: Hrida, r/o: F–03, 1st Flr Krishna Brookfields Aces Layout, Kundalahalli, Blr–560037, Have Changed My Daughter's Name As Hrida Mihir Hapaliya. Vide affidavit on 10/09/2025.

I, MARIYAM Saifulla Baig W/o Shaik Zeeshan Ahmed residing at No.03, 3rd Floor, 4th Cross, Giddappa Block, Ganga Nagar, R T Nagar Post, Bengaluru -560032 have changed my name to Shaguftha Mariyam vide affidavit dated 09-09-2025 before Meer Hassan, Notary, Bengaluru.

THANKSGIVING

THANKSGIVING

Thanks for all the blessings received.
- Dr. Maria Chacko & Family

TENDERS

NSRIT NADIMPALLI SATYANARAYANA RAJU INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (Autonomous)
Sontyam, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed/Online tenders are invited from reputed suppliers for the supply, installation, and commissioning of equipment, tools, machinery and software for setting up **AICTE IDEA Lab** at **NSRIT.** The details can be download from: **www.nsrit.edu.in/aicte-idea-lab**
Last date for submission: **30-09-2025**, 5PM.
Sd/- **PRINCIPAL**

NRI
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Pothavarappadu (V), Agiripalli (M), Eluru Dt-521212 Email: principal@nriit.edu.in, Cell: 8333882444

TENDER NOTICE

AICTE IDEA Lab Tools & Equipment

Quotations are invited from reputed suppliers for supply of equipment, tools and consumables for the establishment of **AICTE IDEA Lab at NRI Institute of Technology**. For details visit our college **Website:https://www.nriit.edu.in**.Completed tenders along with requisite credentials should be mailed to **idealabs@nriit.edu.in** and **principal@nriit.edu.in** on or before **30-09-2025.**
Principal/-
NRI Institute of Technology, Agiripalli
Date: 10/09/2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have entered into an agreement to purchase the Schedule property from its owner **M/s.TULSYAN NEC LIMITED**, a public limited company, represented by its Director/Executive Chairman: Sri.Lalit Kumar Tulsyan S/o Sri.Ganesh Lal Tulsyan, having its registered office at: No.77 (old No.3), 1st Floor, 'Apex Plaza', Nungambakkam High Road, Chennai – 600034. Tamil Nadu.

Apart from the said owner, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of agreement, lease, mortgage, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned, within **10 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

Item No.1: All that piece and parcel of the KIADB Industrial plot in Sy.Nos.62 & 63/2A (E-Khatha No.2553120709), measuring 1 Acre 39 Guntas, situated at Doddaballapura Industrial Area, Varadanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on:

East by : Land in Sy.No.62/2
West by : Plot No.7A & 7-K-P2 and Road
North by : Land in Sy.No.63/2B
South by : Land in Sy.No.56/1

Item No.2: All that piece and parcel of the KIADB Industrial plot measuring 1 Acre 20 Guntas out of 2 Acres 22 Guntas in Sy.No.56/1 (E-Khatha No.6445517391), situated at Doddaballapura Industrial Area, Varadanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Doddaballapura Taluk, Bangalore Rural District and bounded on:

East by : Remaining portion of Sy.No.56/1
West by : Plot No.7-A of KIADB
North by : Land in Sy.No.62 & 63/2-A
South by : Road

Sd/- S.F. GOUTAM CHAND, Advocate,
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES,
No.60, 2nd Floor, Old Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560004

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER
No. NWR-AII0ADMIN(GENS)/45/2022
Dated : 06.09.2025

CPM /GSU/ NWR Ajmer on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders for the following work up to 15.00 Hrs. on the mentioned date. **Tender No. :** GSUAII-PH53-DRB-SHED-25 **Name of work :** Debari -All Div: Improvement of surfacing of existing RL goods PF between line No-3 & 4 along with provision of goods shed, surfacing work of existing RL goods shed at line No-5, construction of boundary wall, construction of Goods Admin block including labour rest room, improvement of drainage system, approach road and other miscellaneous works including all kind of Electrical works in c/w Development of Goods shed at Debari station of Ajmer Division **Approximate cost of work :** Rs. 21,01,30,853.42 **Bid Security :** Rs. 12,00,700.00 **Date & Time of closing E-Tender :** 30/09/2025 at 15.00 Hrs. **Date & Time of opening E-Tender :** 30/09/2025 at 15.30 Hrs. The details of above E - tender are available on website **www.ireps.gov.in** **1133-CR/25**

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1st Floor, Vikas Bhawan,
New Secretariat, patna-800015
(Tel: 0612- 2215580, Fax: 2217059 Email: urbansec-bih@nic.in)
Govt. of Bihar

Tender Cancellation Notice

Tender Cancellation Notice P.R. No.-010382 (URBAN) 2025-26

Due to some unavoidable reason the Tender No.- 09/नo वि०मा०प्ला०–22/2025–**8458**, Dated-**31.07.2025"Selection of Agency For Preparation of Neighbourhood Improvement Plan for Kankarbagh & Pataliputra area in Patna" (PR No.- 010382(URBAN) 2025-26)** is being cancelled.

This information is available on website **state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar** also.

Additional Secretary,
Urban Development and Housing Department
Govt. of Bihar.

PR- 014148 (Urban) 2025-26

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार

Urban Development and Housing Department, Govt. of Bihar
1st Floor, Vikas Bhawan,
New Secretariat, patna-800015
(Tel: 0612- 2215580, Fax: 2217059 Email: urbansec-bih@nic.in)
Govt. of Bihar

Tender Cancellation Notice

Tender Cancellation Notice P.R. No.-010383 (URBAN) 2025-26

Due to some unavoidable reason the Tender No.- 09/ नo वि०मा०प्ला० & 21/2025&**8457**, Dated-**31.07.2025"Selection of Agency For Preparation of Concept plan for Theme Based Greenfiels City- Sitamarhi"(PR No.- 010383 (URBAN) 2025-26)** is being cancelled.

This information is available on website **state.bihar.gov.in/prdbihar** also.

Additional Secretary,
Urban Development and Housing Department
Govt. of Bihar.

PR- 014146 (Urban) 2025-26

नशे से बचने का है एक ही उपचार, दृढ़ संकल्प और परिवार से प्यार

EDUCATION HUB

A Business Initiative

REVA University Welcomes New Academic Batch 2025-26

REVA University, a frontrunner in higher education, inaugurated its new academic batch for 2025-2026 at Saugandhika, REVA University. The ceremony was graced by Shri Satya Lanka, VP, Oracle Global Services Centre as the Chief Guest, and Shri Rohan Shravan, Founder, Tresa Motors as the Guest of Honour. Both distinguished guests inspired the new students with their insights on science, technology, entrepreneurship, and innovation. Presiding over the function, Dr. P. Shyama Raju, Chancellor of REVA University, reiterated the institution's mission of creating a holistic ecosystem that nurtures academic excellence and personal growth. The inauguration marked the beginning of a transformative journey for the new batch, with the coming days curated to help students settle into university life while exploring their chosen programmes, campus culture, and the diverse opportunities for academic, professional, and personal development. The event was attended by Dr. Sanjay R. Chitnis, VC; Dr. R. C. Biradar, Pro VC, Dr. K. S. Narayanaswamy, Registrar; Dr. Beena G, Registrar (Evaluation); faculty members, students, and parents.

Alliance University Hosts Immersion Programme for Alliance PU College Students

Recently Alliance University organized a special Immersion Program for the students of Alliance Pre-University College, aimed at inspiring young learners, strengthening their academic orientation, and preparing them for future career paths. The program was inaugurated in the presence of distinguished leaders of Alliance University, Mr. Abhay G. Chebbi, Pro-Chancellor; Dr. B. Priestly Shan, Vice-Chancellor; Ms. Surekha Shetty, Registrar General; and Principal of Alliance Pre-University College, Dr. B.H.S. Thimmappa. The distinguished speakers inspired the students to maintain a positive mindset, excel in their pursuits, and uphold values of resilience and determination and emphasized three core values–Attitude, Aptitude, and Solitude–as cornerstones of success, helped students realize their potential and achieve their career dreams and inspired them to continue their pursuit of academic and personal excellence. Alliance Education is not just about academic success but about shaping resilient, skilled, and confident individuals. Students are oriented to excel in academics, overcome life's challenges, and build meaningful careers. Such Immersion Programs reflect on the mission of Alliance University to nurture young learners through a blend of holistic development and skill enhancement.

Dr.Akhil Scaria, alumnus of the inaugural Performing Arts cohort at CHRIST University, Bengaluru

Dr Akhil Scaria has been named "Edupreneur Director of the Year" by the University of Oxford, UK. He was formally honoured with A Medal of Honour, Certificate of Excellence, University of Oxford Lapel Pin & Trophy of Recognition at the 14th World Leaders Summit (WLS) 2025 on 31st of August 2025 at University of Oxford (Keble College, O'Reilly Theatre) UK for his pioneering contributions to educational innovation. Dr.Akhil met and surpassed the selection criteria and other parameters and clearly demonstrated the outstanding qualities a 'WLS' delegate should possess. WLS is an International Conference which unites visionaries, entrepreneurs and educators from 30+ Countries to inspire, collaborate, and transform the future & at the same time focus on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 4,5,8,9,16 & 17.

RajaRajeswari College of Engineering Celebrates 16th Graduation Day

RajaRajeswari College of Engineering held its 16 th Graduation Day recently, at A.C.S. Convention Centre within RajaRajeswari Medical College and Hospital campus. The event was led by the Chairman, Dr. A.C. Shanmugam along with President, ACS Arun Kumar, Chairperson (MCET), Smt. Lalitha Lakshmi, Executive Director Dr. S. Vijayanand, Principal Dr. R. Balakrishna, CEO Sri. C.N. Seetharam (Retd. IAS) and other notable dignitaries. The college had the honour of hosting Sri. L. Murugan, Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting, Parliament Affairs, Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairy, Government of India, as the Chief Guest of the event. In a moment of honour, the Chairman and dignitaries felicitated the Chief Guest, recognizing his valuable presence. In his address, Dr. A.C. Shanmugam motivated the graduating students to carry forward their streak of success and strive for excellence in both their personal and professional lives. The Chief Guest, Sri. Yeshwanth V. Gurukar, IAS, congratulated the graduating students and encouraged them to channel their knowledge and skills not only towards building fulfilling careers but also towards contributing meaningfully to society. The Guest of Honour, Ms. Radhika Narayan, extended her warm wishes to the graduates and shared words of inspiration. The event was also witnessed by an enthusiastic gathering of parents, faculty, and staff, whose unwavering support and guidance played a pivotal role in the success of the graduating students. The ceremony concluded on a high note, filled with pride, celebration, and inspiration for the journey ahead.

Man of faith

The new Vice-President can help end combative hostilities in the Rajya Sabha

C.P. Radhakrishnan, 68, who joined the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) as a teenager, has been elected as the Vice-President of India, marking another attempt by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to link its version of nationalist ideology with the Sangh Parivar agenda. Mr. Radhakrishnan was a member of the TN Jan Sangh executive committee by 1974 – a time when the Sangh Parivar's presence in Tamil Nadu was marginal and his political affiliation was clearly inspired by ideology than careerism. On September 9, 2025, he became the Vice-President of India, a reward for his ideological fealty on the one hand, and as a milestone in his journey of the RSS on the other. He secured 452 out of 752 valid votes, and defeated Justice B. Sudershan Reddy from the INDIA bloc by 152 votes. He was elected to the Lok Sabha twice, from Coimbatore in 1998 and 1999, as a BJP candidate supported by the AIADMK and then the DMK. He served on parliamentary committees and a special committee investigating a stock market scam. He also represented India at the UN General Assembly. From 2004 to 2007, as BJP State president, he undertook a 93-day "Ratha Yatra", advocating river linking, ending untouchability, countering terrorism, and promoting a Uniform Civil Code.

As the Governor of Jharkhand (2023) and Maharashtra (2024), Mr. Radhakrishnan expanded his administrative experience and enhanced his political stature, but his new role will be a different kettle of fish. As the V-P, he will also function as the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, which will test his political acumen. He has spoken in support of federalism and smoother Centre-State relations in the past, but the general inclination of the BJP and the RSS is towards a centralisation of power. The role of Parliament has weakened in recent years even as the executive has expanded its power to unprecedented levels. The Rajya Sabha has been particularly undermined by arbitrary classification of Bills as finance Bills that do not require its approval. The concept of the Rajya Sabha as a council of States existed more in theory than in practice always, but its deliberate erosion is a recent development. The relationship between the government and the Opposition has become hostile and toxic in recent years. Even parliamentary committees have become battlegrounds of senseless rhetoric rather than platforms of thoughtful deliberations. Mr. Radhakrishnan has his task cut out. With his affable demeanour, he just might be able to nudge the government and the Opposition toward better cooperation and less combativeness.

Generational rage

Violent nihilism following crackdown threatens democracy in Nepal

The upheaval that swept Nepal on Tuesday, with protesters torching Parliament, the Supreme Court, political residences, and media offices while releasing prisoners, cannot be dismissed as a natural reaction to the previous day's crackdown that killed 19 young demonstrators. These actions, following Prime Minister K.P. Oli's resignation, reveal a violent nihilism that threatens to undo Nepal's hard-won democratic gains. The "Gen Z protests" were born out of frustration with Nepal's chronic political dysfunction. Less than two decades after the triumphant "Jan Andolan II" of 2005 overthrew absolute monarchy and promised a "Naya Nepal", the political establishment has delivered only instability and self-serving governance. Since the 1990s, Nepal has cycled through 13 heads of government across 30 tenures. The leaders of the mainstream Nepali Congress, CPN-UML, and CPN-Maoist Centre have prioritised unethical alliances over electoral mandates. Leaders such as K.P. Oli and Sher Bahadur Deuba showed little inclination in supporting Jan Andolan II and the Constituent Assembly process in the 2000s, while Maoist leader Pushpa Kamal Dahal has prioritised staying in power. The consequences are stark: the economy banks on remittances, leading to significant youth out-migration, soaring unemployment, and failure of diversification in a country that the UN calls "least developed".

The disillusionment resulting from an entire generation growing up watching its country's potential squandered has now birthed new political forces. They include the Rashtriya Swatantra Party and independents such as Kathmandu Mayor Balendra Shah, reflecting a genuine public hunger for alternatives. However, some positions assumed by these new voices raise concerns. Mr. Shah's call to dissolve the elected Parliament, rather than for a caretaker government, leading to elections, suggests either democratic immaturity or, more dangerously, a willingness to abandon democratic norms. Bangladesh's recent upheaval, which led to democratic backsliding, offers a cautionary tale. Nepal must not mistake the destruction of state and civil society institutions to be democratic renewal. The crisis demands stabilisation and long-term constitutional reform that fulfil the promises made before the Constituent Assembly process, but which were diluted by the time the Constitution was written. A presidential system with direct elections and accountable to an elected Parliament could break the cycle of instability. But constitutional reform means nothing without immediate peace. The Nepali Army must step forward to create space for civilian democratic actors to reassert control and chart reform. The alternative – allowing violent nihilism to masquerade as democratic renewal – risks destroying the very foundations upon which any "Naya Nepal" must be built.

The way forward on Katchatheevu, Palk Strait disputes

Nirmala Chandrahasan

is Attorney-at-law, Supreme Court of Sri Lanka

India has historically shaped regional and global diplomacy through the Panchsheel principles, the Non-Aligned Movement, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, and, most recently, with its "Neighbourhood First Policy". This stance has generally promoted peace and interdependence in South Asia. However, its unresolved issues with Sri Lanka, as the fisheries crisis in the Palk Straits and the sovereignty of Katchatheevu island, pose challenges.

During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Colombo in April 2025, both governments revisited these long-standing concerns. Mr. Modi emphasised a "humane approach" to the fisheries issue – one that balances livelihoods with conservation. This vision can succeed only if India and Sri Lanka address ecological imperatives and historic grievances in a spirit of cooperation.

Livelihood and conservation at odds

Fishing communities along the Tamil Nadu coast and the Northern Province of Sri Lanka have, for centuries, shared the Palk Straits. But disputes today are exacerbated by Indian vessels carrying out mechanised bottom trawling in Sri Lankan waters.

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) lays stress not only on equitable use of marine resources but also their conservation. Similarly, the FAO's Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries 1995 deems destructive practices such as bottom trawling to be unacceptable.

Sri Lanka banned bottom trawling in 2017, but hundreds of Indian trawlers still continue the practice, damaging coral beds, shrimp habitats, and depleting fish stocks. Ironically, Tamil Nadu's smaller artisanal fishers, who use traditional sustainable methods, also suffer: their near-shore resources have been depleted by the trawler industry, forcing them into contested waters. Thus, this is not just a territorial clash but also a livelihood conflict within the Tamil communities themselves – between business trawler operators pursuing profit and traditional fishers who are dependent on the sea for subsistence.

A sustainable resolution calls for making a distinction between the needs of artisanal fishers and trawler operators. Trawler operators cannot claim empathy as their commercial profits are at the expense of marine sustainability and community welfare. Small boat artisanal fishers have fished in these waters "from time immemorial" and their plight deserves humane accommodation.

This can be worked out through dialogue between Indian and Sri Lankan fisher organisations. With the consent of the Sri Lankan fishers, they can work out quotas or regulated access and set out limited fishing rights on specific days or seasons for Tamil Nadu's small fishers, until India's stocks recover.

If handled with prudence, the Katchatheevu and Palk Straits issues can become symbols of cooperation rather than conflict

There should be community sensitisation. Sri Lankan Tamil Members of Parliament and the Tamil media can play a role by highlighting in Tamil Nadu the hardships that the Northern fishermen suffered during Sri Lanka's long civil war. Many of these families lost decades of income when the military restricted sea access during the conflict. They should not be portrayed as aggressors but as fellow victims of economic loss. Such steps would foster goodwill. It is worth remembering that during the Sri Lankan conflict, Tamil refugees were received in Tamil Nadu with compassion, housed in camps, and given assistance. Preserving these bonds of fraternity is essential.

Clearing the misconceptions

Public debate often portrays Katchatheevu, the tiny uninhabited islet in the Palk Straits, as the root of the fisheries dispute. This is misleading. Katchatheevu is less than half a square mile in area, and is barren except for the church of St. Anthony, which fishermen from Tamil Nadu continue to visit for the annual festival under the 1974 India-Sri Lanka Maritime Boundary Treaty. The 1974 boundary settlement placed the islet in Sri Lankan waters. The Treaty is legally binding. Under international law, boundary treaties are sacrosanct (*pacta sunt servanda*). They cannot be unilaterally repudiated without undermining the global order – just as China's contestation of its settled frontiers with India generates instability.

Myths such as "Indira Gandhi gifted the island to Sirimavo Bandaranaike" need clarification. In reality, India weighed historic evidence of sovereignty before deciding. Records showed Sri Lankan administrative control dating back to Portuguese and Dutch rule, and, earlier, to the Tamil kings of the kingdom of Jaffna.

International precedents exist in the following cases. In the Minquiers and Ecrehos case (*France vs United Kingdom*, the International Court of Justice 1953), the ICJ awarded sovereignty to the U.K., despite France's historical claim through the Duchy of Normandy, because it had exercised administrative jurisdiction. Similarly, India conceded that Sri Lanka had the stronger claim. Another example is the Rann of Kutch Arbitration (1968) between India and Pakistan.

Thus, retrieving Katchatheevu is not a question of justice but of political rhetoric. It remains a settled issue under international law. Importantly, fishing rights are a distinct matter – not linked to sovereignty over the islet.

The Palk Straits and adjacent waters were recognised as "historic waters" under Indian and Sri Lankan law – areas where sovereign rights are even stronger than in normal territorial seas. As such, there is no "right of innocent passage" or third-state fishing rights without explicit consent. Judicial recognition of historic rights dates back to the Madras High Court case of *Annakumaru Pillai vs Muthupayal And Ors.* (1904), which upheld claims based on traditional pearl and conch fisheries. Therefore, India's acceptance in 1974 of the maritime boundary was not whimsical but legally consistent with historic precedent.

The UNCLOS (Article 123) encourages cooperation in semi-enclosed seas – such as the Palk Bay and Gulf of Mannar. Here, joint resource management is not just ideal but mandatory.

Models exist as in the Baltic Sea Fisheries Convention where Latvia, Poland and the European Union share quotas to conserve resources.

India and Sri Lanka could implement similar frameworks such as equitable quotas for fishing days and catch, a joint research station on Katchatheevu for marine biologists to monitor resources and suggest sustainable practices, and promotion of deep-sea fishing in India's 200-nautical-mile Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), reducing pressure on near-shore waters and lessening illegal crossings.

Toward good neighbourhood policy

India's regional leadership is shaped not just by geography but also by cultural and civilisational ties. With Sri Lanka, those ties are especially deep. To protect them, disputes must be addressed without populist rhetoric but through quiet cooperation, legal recognition and shared livelihood security. The way forward involves multiple levels such as government-to-government talks (retaining trust and treaty obligations) and State/Provincial engagement (involving Tamil Nadu and Sri Lanka's Northern Provincial Council and community dialogue, encouraging people-people empathy that overcomes media distortions).

If handled with prudence, the Katchatheevu and Palk Straits issues can become symbols of cooperation rather than conflict.

India and Sri Lanka share not only maritime boundaries but also centuries of cultural, religious, and kinship ties. The fisheries issue requires fairness to both communities, prioritising artisanal livelihoods and ecological sustainability. The Katchatheevu issue, meanwhile, is legally settled – it should no longer cloud the real problem of managing resources. By adopting a collaborative fisheries regime, investing in deep-sea alternatives, and respecting historical legal agreements, the fishers of Tamil Nadu and the Northern province of Sri Lanka could move from confrontation to cooperation. In the long arc of diplomacy, smaller disputes must not overshadow the larger vision: peace, prosperity and mutual respect in South Asia.

A joint and new journey along the SCO pathway

Xu Feihong

is China's Ambassador to India

Last week, I was privileged to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Tianjin, China, for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit, and attend the meeting between China's President Xi Jinping and Mr. Modi. This is a summit of solidarity and friendship. After 24 years of development, the SCO has grown into the world's largest regional organisation. The SCO Tianjin Summit has been the largest since the organisation's establishment. Leaders or the representatives of 23 countries, Mr. Modi included, and 10 heads of international organisations gathered to renew friendship, explore cooperation, seek common development, and advance the SCO into a new stage of high-quality development.

A high-yielding summit

There were fruitful outcomes. The Tianjin Declaration announced the establishment of "four security centres", including the SCO Universal Center for Countering Security Challenges and Threats and the SCO Anti-drug Center, and decided to set up the SCO Development Bank. Member-states of the SCO issued statements which expressed a fair stance in support of the multilateral trading system, and a just voice for defending the achievements of the victory in the Second World War.

This was a summit that focused on development. The leaders adopted the SCO's development strategy for the next decade. Against this backdrop, Mr. Xi announced that China would establish three major platforms for China-SCO cooperation in energy, green industry, and the digital economy, and set up three major cooperation centres for scientific and technological innovation, higher education and also vocational and technical education. These initiatives are open to all member-states, providing the organisation with new opportunities and empowering the region's sustainable development.

It was a summit leading global governance. In response to the governance deficit facing today's world, Mr. Xi put forth the Global Governance Initiative, calling for adhering to sovereign equality, abiding by international rule of law, practising multilateralism, advocating a people-centered approach, and focusing on taking real actions, which became the biggest highlight of this summit.

China stands ready to work with India in enhancing cooperation under the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

Since joining the SCO in 2017, India has played an important role in advancing the SCO's development. China deeply appreciates Mr. Modi's and India's full support for China's SCO presidency. China stands ready to work with India to enhance cooperation under the framework of SCO in various areas such as security, financing, energy, green industry and the digital economy, to better improve the well-being of their people.

The diamond jubilee of ties

This year marks the 75th anniversary of China-India diplomatic ties. In Tianjin, Mr. Xi and Mr. Modi reached new, important and common understandings on growing China-India relations further. Mr. Xi pointed out that it should be the right choice for China and India to be good-neighbourly friends and partners who help each other succeed, and have the dragon and the elephant dance together. Mr. Modi also stated that India and China are partners, not rivals. Their consensus far outweighs their disagreement. India is ready to view and develop the bilateral ties from a long-term perspective.

We should uphold the important and common understandings reached by the two leaders as guidance, and push bilateral relations forward for more practical progress.

First, we should further consolidate strategic mutual trust. We should earnestly draw the lessons from the past 75 years, strengthen correct strategic perception, explore right ways for neighbouring major countries to get along with each other, which are characterised by mutual respect and trust, peaceful coexistence, pursuit of common development, and win-win cooperation, and gradually resume various mechanisms for dialogue and exchange between the two governments.

Second, we should further expand exchanges and cooperation. We should focus on development, which is the biggest common denominator of the two countries, and promote mutual support and success, and better facilitate trade and investment flows. The Chinese side is ready to strengthen cooperation with the Indian side in technology, education, culture, tourism and poverty alleviation, and promote exchanges and communications between political parties, think-tanks, media and the youth, so as to expand the convergence of interests and promote people-to-people bonds.

Third, we should further enhance good-neighbourliness and friendship. We should continue to uphold the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence initiated by the older generation of Chinese and Indian leaders, truly respect each other's core interests and major concerns, and combine our strength to maintain peace and tranquillity in the border areas. We should not allow the boundary question that was left over from the past to define current China-India relations, nor let specific differences affect bilateral cooperation, so as to ensure the sound and stable development of China-India relations.

The road ahead

As the world's two most populous major developing countries and important members of the Global South, China and India share common interests in pursuing development and revitalisation, maintaining world peace and stability, and promoting global governance. India and China will successively assume the BRICS presidency in the next two years. China stands ready to work with India to support each other's presidency, deepen and strengthen greater BRICS cooperation, jointly implement the Global Governance Initiative, resolutely oppose bullying and hegemony, defend international fairness and justice, and join hands to build a community with a shared future for humanity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

India, regional unrest

As protests erupt in Nepal and governments in Pakistan and Bangladesh struggle with instability, it is a reminder of how fragile democracy can be (Front page, September 10). India, despite its challenges, stands strong, guided by stable institutions and the will of its people. We often take this for granted. But looking around, we must appreciate what we have and protect it. These neighbouring crises should inspire us to stay engaged, informed and united. Our democracy is not perfect, but it is ours — and it is working. Yet, we must not forget that instability next door can ripple across over our own borders if we are not vigilant.

Ishika Rajpura,
Amritsar, Punjab

A new era in tennis

The just concluded US Open is proof enough of a clear generational shift in world tennis not only on the court but also in the hearts of global audiences also. While legends such as Novak Djokovic, Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer have together dominated men's tennis, there is change with the arrival of two highly talented youngsters — 'Sincaraz', who combine grit, guts and grace. The emergence of a new generation of tennis stars has reignited enthusiasm for the wonderful game.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

Corrections & Clarifications

Maharashtra Governor C.P. Radhakrishnan is the 15th Vice-President of India, and not the 17th, as mentioned in a front-page report, "Radhakrishnan elected Vice-President of India" (September 10, 2025). It was the 17th V-P election as Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan and Hamid Ansari each served two terms as Vice-President.

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To build roads is to build peace

Pavan Mamidi

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In India's tribal hinterlands, especially those affected by Maoist insurgency, roads are not just a matter of transport. They are emissaries of the state, carving a path not only through forests and hills but also through histories of marginalisation and neglect. In regions where formal institutions are barely visible, a newly built road often marks the first arrival of governance itself.

A growing body of research shows that road development in conflict-affected areas has a stabilising effect. In Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and Odisha, core States in the "Red Corridor," the presence of rural roads is strongly associated with improvements in electricity access, employment opportunities, and security. Roads help reclaim governance from non-state actors who thrive in isolation. When the state is absent, insurgent groups often step in with slogans and systems. Across conflict zones, insurgents have set up parallel institutions that mimic state functions. Diego Gambetta's classic study of the Sicilian Mafia illustrates this: extralegal actors assume roles such as conflict resolution and taxation when the state withdraws. In India, Maoist insurgents have attempted to fill governance gaps in remote areas by running informal courts and levying their own "taxes." The demand and supply logic applies to governance. An undersupply of formal governance leads to opportunistic entrepreneurship seeking to pick up the slack in supply.

In some tribal regions, it is reported that extralegal outfits have even dispensed rudimentary medical aid where clinics are absent – an act that blurs the line between care and coercion. Research by Alpa Shah (2018) and Human Rights Watch (2009) notes that the Naxalite presence in villages often includes some health services and welfare activities, though always underwritten by the threat of violence. As scholar Zachariah Mampilly (2011) observed in other insurgent contexts, such services are not charitable - they are strategic. The aim is not just survival but legitimacy.

Legitimacy cannot rest on coercion alone. Extralegal governance, while sometimes filling the gaps left by the state, is not bound by constitutional safeguards or democratic principles. Its forms of justice are often opaque, arbitrary, and punitive. In several Maoist-affected areas, there are reports of kangaroo courts (*jan adalats*) that have issued summary punishments, including executions, without due process. This is justice without appeal, correction, or accountability-more terror than tribunal.

This is why infrastructure matters. It is the physical precondition for the presence of lawful authority. Jain and Biswas (2023) have shown that road connectivity correlates with a decline in crime and increased service access in rural India. Internationally, Rafael Prieto-Curiel and Ronaldo Menezes (2020) demonstrate that violence is higher in poorly connected areas, whether in cities or rural zones. Infrastructure, they argue, is not merely functional; it is political.

Formal state institutions, though imperfect, operate within a framework of laws shaped by democratic consensus. These laws are debated, refined, and subject to public scrutiny. When schools, police stations, clinics and courts are introduced in conflict-prone areas through road development, they bring not only services but a system that is, at least in principle, accountable to citizens. It is the rule of law, not rule by fiat.

This contrast is critical. While formal institutions are subject to electoral oversight, bureaucratic accountability, and legal restraint, informal justice systems are not. They more often reflect entrenched power hierarchies and patriarchal norms, leading to practices such as vigilante justice and collective punishment. In the absence of courts, entire communities can be targeted. Accusations of collaboration with security forces have, in some cases, led to mob reprisals under the guise of justice.

The Indian state has recognised this. In Chhattisgarh, former top official and current NITI Aayog CEO B.V.R. Subrahmanyam led a thoughtful strategy that placed infrastructure at the heart of governance renewal. Roads came first, followed by schools, clinics, and law enforcement. Each road had a message: that the state has come in, and is here to stay.

Safeguards are needed too

But infrastructure alone cannot resolve conflict. Roads can carry relief or repression. Without institutional safeguards such as justice mechanisms, health-care access, and community consultation, they risk becoming symbols of control rather than inclusion. A road should not simply be laid through a village but built with the village as this is essential to legitimacy. Moreover, we must be mindful that informal social norms, even outside insurgent control, can be just as exclusionary. It is said that in some parts of rural India, *khap* panchayats and caste councils operate alongside or in place of formal institutions. These bodies often enforced rigid social codes through shame or violence. While they may have provided swift resolution, they did so without the protections of equity or legality. Development, therefore, must aim not only to replace insurgent authority but also to integrate pluralistic, rights-based governance rooted in India's constitutional values.

As India invests in its tribal heartlands, especially in regions like southern Chhattisgarh, road development must be part of a broader effort to extend justice, dignity, and opportunity. The goal is not merely movement but belonging. To build roads, then, is to build peace.

Roads help reclaim governance from non-state actors who thrive in isolation

The BRS's woes continue

CBI probe into Kaleshwaram lapses, rebellion by Kavitha spell more trouble

STATE OF PLAY

Ravi Reddy
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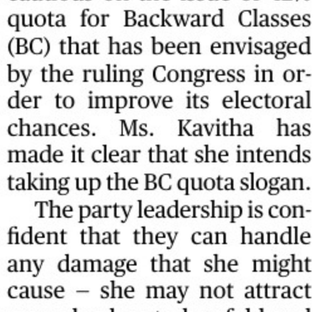
The political drama in Telangana that unfolded with the suspension of Kalvakuntla Kavitha last week is likely to trouble the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), the main Opposition party in the State, which is confronting one issue after another. Ms. Kavitha was the BRS Member of the Legislative Council (MLC) and Telangana Jagruti President, and is also the daughter of BRS leader and former Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao.

The BRS is already grappling with a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation, ordered by the Congress government in Telangana, to look into the findings by the Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghosh Commission of Inquiry. The Commission had probed alleged irregularities in the construction of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project, leading to its inoperability. The open rebellion by Ms. Kavitha is another blow for the BRS. A day after her suspension for 'anti-party' activities, she tendered her resignation as MLC, and vowed to fight her detractors.

The BRS also faces a tough challenge in retaining the Jubilee Hills Assembly seat with the passing of the sitting member, Maganti Gopinath. Its popularity will be tested once the bugle for local body polls is sounded.

Another emerging issue is bypolls to a few Assembly seats being conducted if the Telangana Assembly Speaker decides to disqualify turncoat MLAs who joined the ruling Congress. The Supreme Court



had ordered the disposal of the disqualification petitions within three months.

The ruling Congress and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) are preparing for the prestigious local body polls. In contrast, the BRS is in a state of confusion – Ms. Kavitha has also blamed a cousin and former Irrigation Minister, T. Harish Rao, and former Rajya Sabha member Joginpally Santosh Rao for her woes which has irked her father as well as brother, BRS president K.T. Rama Rao.

Some women BRS leaders have tried to counter her but the response has been weak as this is an issue that involves the party's first family. While the BRS leadership has been cautious on the issue of 42% quota for Backward Classes (BC) that has been envisaged by the ruling Congress in order to improve its electoral chances. Ms. Kavitha has made it clear that she intends taking up the BC quota slogan.

The party leadership is confident that they can handle any damage that she might cause – she may not attract many leaders to her fold and there is speculation that the 'neglected' second or third rung leaders may try and jump ship. To unsettle her, the BRS has engineered a split in the Telangana Jagruti, the cultural outfit that she had floated at the height of the Statehood movement.

BRS leaders are also watching to see whether Ms. Kavitha could embarrass the party by fielding candidates in the local bodies.

While the sarpanch elections are held on a non-party basis, the ZPTC and MPTC part of Panchayat Raj bodies are conducted using party symbols. After losing power in the Assembly elections in 2023, drawing a blank in the 2024 general election and shocked to have 10 of its MLAs defect to the Congress, the BRS can ill-afford to face more trouble.

In the 2019 local body polls, the BRS – it was called the Telangana Rashtra Samiti then – won 445 ZPTC seats and 3,556 MPTC posts in elections to 534 ZPTC and 5,659 MPTC vacancies in 32 districts. The Congress is now keen to bag a majority of the seats.

The BRS still has a chance to recoup if it is able to focus on the local body polls. Though its strategy on the 42% BC quota is still unclear, it faces an uphill task in taking on the resurgent Congress, which is banking on the BC quota issue to win.

Nevertheless, it will be a straight fight between the Congress and the BRS as the BJP is not a force to reckon with.

Amid the gloom, BRS leaders are hopeful that the legislators who defected will be disqualified, paving the way for another round of bye-elections. If this happens, the bye-elections will not only be a challenge to the BRS but also to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of the Congress, who can ill-afford to lose a seat.

Whether the BRS will be able to take on the might of the Congress in the event of bypolls will be keenly watched. Till then the BRS will have to find a way to manage its many troubles.

Political instability, economic difficulties behind Nepal's rage

Nepal is the most unstable democracy and has the fourth highest remittance-dependency

DATA POINT

Vignesh Radhakrishnan
Srinivasan Ramani

The "Gen Z" protests in Nepal that began as a movement against the ban on social media outlets and corruption on Monday, took a violent turn the next day, with attacks on all institutions. The proximate reasons apart, political instability – marked by frequent changes in government and unethical alliances – has kept Nepal's stark societal inequalities intact, especially among youth who are forced to emigrate due to soaring unemployment. This should explain their angry protests.

When Khadga Prasad Oli -- he has since resigned -- formed a new government in 2024, it marked the 30th change in leadership in Nepal ever since it became an elected democracy in 1990. Despite transitioning from constitutional monarchy (1990-2008) to becoming a constitutional republic (2008 onwards), no Prime Minister has ever completed a full term.

Data show that Nepal tops the world in government tenures since 1990. Excluding countries such as San Marino, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Switzerland, where frequent leadership changes are legally mandated, Nepal leads with 25 completed tenures since 1990– each lasting on average just a year and two months (**Table 1**).

These frequent changes have undermined the promise of stable, democratic, federal governance as envisioned by Nepal's two Jan Andolans (1989-90 and 2005-2008). Political instability has also meant that long-standing inequalities – between rich and poor, rural and urban, educated and less-educated – remain entrenched. These divides are most pronounced among youth, the main cohort that led the demonstrations against political elites in protests described as "Gen Z vs Nepo kids".

Nepal's overall unemployment rate stood at 12.5% in 2022-23, but the burden falls disproportionately on the young. Among those aged 15-24, unemployment reached 22.7%, compared to 11.5% in the 25-44 group and 7.5% among those aged 45-64 (**Chart 2**).

Inequality cuts across multiple dimensions. Some 17.2% of individuals from the poorest households were unemployed, as against 8.5% from the richest. Education creates stark differences: unemployment stands at 18.1% among those with only basic schooling, compared to just 6.3% among bachelor's degree holders. Geography adds another layer – while Kathmandu valley records the lowest rate at 7.6%, unemployment exceeds 20% in many rural regions.

Critically, labour force participation itself is much lower among poor, rural, and less-educated populations. Among the relatively fewer in these groups who enter the labour market, a higher share cannot find work. This creates a double disadvantage – not only are they unable to find employment, but many are not even actively seeking it due to lack of relevant opportunities.

This has pushed many, especially from disadvantaged groups, to seek work abroad. About one in four males in Nepal is absent from home, with a significant share living outside the country. The proportion of female-headed households has increased dramatically from just 13.6% in 1995-96 to 37.1% in 2022-23, reinforcing this pattern of male out-migration.

Absenteeism is starkest in rural areas and among youth. About 20% of the rural population is absent from home, compared with just 8.7% in the Kathmandu valley. More than half of male absentees (56%) are aged 15-29 years – the same group recording the highest unemployment rate. Those who leave Nepal to work abroad have become a major income source for families and the nation. The share of households receiving remittances has risen sharply from 23.4% in 1995-96 to 76.8% in 2022-23. Among such households, remittances now account for over 33% of total income, up from 26.6% in 1995-96 (**Chart 3**).

More significantly, remittances increasingly originate from outside Nepal. In 2022-23, nearly 50% came from countries other than India, about 20% from India, and the rest from internal migrants. In contrast, in 1995-96, 44.7% came from within Nepal and 33% from India. This shift highlights both the growing exodus of Nepali workers and diversification of destinations beyond India. Current remittance sources show that Qatar (10%), Saudi Arabia (9%), Malaysia (8.6%), and the UAE (7.1%) are the most preferred non-Indian destinations for Nepali workers.

Personal remittances have surged from just 1% of Nepal's GDP in 1990 to over 33% in 2024. By this measure, Nepal ranks as the world's fourth most remittance-dependent country. Notably, this figure covers only cross-border remittances.

These statistics show precisely why Nepal's youth had taken to the streets with such fury, even if the violent upheaval that followed the Gen Z's protests the next day deserves a closer look at who instigated the arson and vandalism that targeted Parliament, the Supreme Court and other institutions.

In sum, Nepal has achieved the world's highest level of political instability while simultaneously becoming the world's fourth most-remittance-dependent economy. These two facts seen together suggest that political instability has resulted in the lack of economic policies to diversify Nepal's economy and provide jobs, forcing citizens to seek jobs abroad. Which goes on to explain why there is severe anger against the political system that came into being after two massive civil and political society mobilisations in 1990 and 2005.

With inputs from Godhashri S.

Fire in the mountains

The data for the charts were sourced from the National Statistics Office of Nepal and the Rulers, Elections and Irregular Governance dataset

Trouble at the top: Protesters climbing the main gate of the Prime Minister's office during the anti-government protests in Kathmandu, Nepal. PTI

Table 1: Countries with the highest number of tenures their heads of governments have had between 1990 and August 2021

Country	Tenures	Average tenure (months)
Nepal	25*	13.7
Vanuatu	22	15.6
Bulgaria	17	21.8
Nauru	17	16.8
Moldova	16	22.8
Japan	15	23.1

**The data excludes two tenures of direct rule by former King Gyanendra.*
Countries where frequent leadership changes are legally mandated are excluded

Chart 2: Nepal's age-wise unemployment rate in 2022-23 (in %)

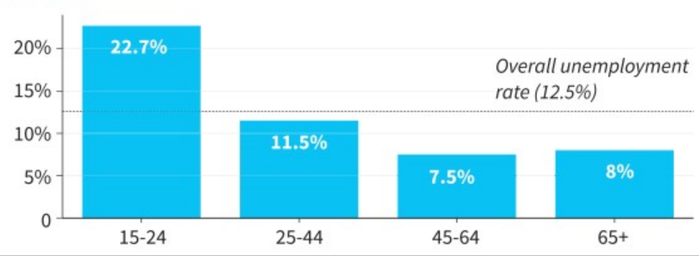
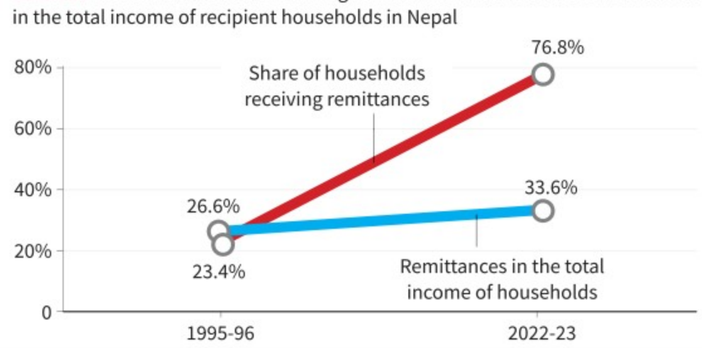


Chart 3: Share of households receiving remittances and the share of remittances in the total income of recipient households in Nepal



FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 11, 1975

Madras Has Deepest Port

MADRAS, Sept. 10
Madras is the deepest port in India to-day with the completion of dredging of the outer harbour to receive ships 46 feet of draught last month. The first oil tanker loaded up to 46 draught, was berthed in the Bharathi dock on August 13 with 73,000 tonnes of Iranian crude for the Madras refinery. The Shipping Corporation of India's tanker, M.T. "Lal Bahadur Shastri" arrived on August 29, laden up to 46 feet draught and carrying 65,000 tonnes of crude.
Prior to the completion of deepening of the outer harbour, ships of draught upto 42 feet only were received. A proposal to deepen the outer harbour further to receive ships of draught upto 49 feet was pending approval of the Government of India, Mr. S.P. Ambrose, Chairman of the Madras Port Trust, told news-men to-day.
The Chairman said the construction of the first stage of the fisheries harbour, north of the Bharathi dock, to accommodate 50 trawlers and 500 mechanised fishing boats was expected to be completed by the middle of 1977. The capacity would be increased to receive 160 trawlers and 500 more mechanised boats later. In addition to 35 acres available on the shore now, 60 acres would be reclaimed from the sea to provide facilities like auction and packing halls, cold storage and processing plants. The harbour was designed to handle 40,000 tonnes of sea food per annum initially and 80,000 tonnes subsequently.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO SEPTEMBER 11, 1925

Abolition Of Slavery

Viscount Cecil's Proposals
Submitted to League Committee
(Reuter's Agency.)
GENEVA, Sep. 9.
Viscount Cecil, on behalf of Britain, unexpectedly submitted to-day at the League Committee, proposals for the eventual abolition of slavery, including domestic slavery in all parts of the world. No serious objections were raised. But Portuguese and other delegates emphasised the importance of not moving too rapidly.
It is understood that the proposals are regarded as the most important of their kind, since the Brussels Act of 1890 and provides severe punishment for anyone attempting to engage in slave traffic in any signatory State and assimilates slave trading with piracy and lays down that the slave vessel shall be treated as a pirate.

From Page One

Trump, Modi signal trade talks may resume

Speaking at an event organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) on Wednesday, he said that no business partnership or friendship could be "one-sided".

Asked how the trade talks were brought "back on track", government officials pointed to a number of initiatives by New Delhi to Washington, including by Indian Ambassador to the U.S. Vinay Kwatra, who has met nearly 30 U.S. Representatives and about 10 influential Senators in the past month, apart from think tanks, media organisations, and State department officials, even as Defence and Space exchanges continued "as normal". India also hosted three U.S. lawmakers, including Brian Fitzpatrick, who had earlier moved a Bill calling for heavy sanctions on India for its dealings with Russia during the Ukraine war.

According to a Washington-based source, a "high-level" Indian outreach was also made to U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio in late August, proposing a return to the FTA negotiations. According to the source, the White House said the "ball is in India's court", referring to an elimination or at least a reduction in India's import of oil from Russia.

The External Affairs Ministry declined to respond to a written request from *The Hindu* about the alleged outreach to Washington by a senior member of the government, but it did not deny the claim either. India has thus far rejected U.S. calls to cut Russian oil, asserting it as a "sovereign decision" based on market positions.

'No official directions' on future purchases

India's oil importers and major public sectors undertakings (PSU) said there have been "no official directions" on future purchases from Russia, which amounted to 2 million bpd (barrels per day) in August. However, a senior official in one of the top oil importing Indian companies, told *The Hindu* that "no new orders" had been placed for Russian oil by his company in September so far.

"The oil that has so far entered the country from Russia has been from those orders that were placed before the additional tariffs were imposed. The oil that will come in November will be orders placed in September," the official, who asked not to be named, explained.

Nepal protests: Army takes charge of security

With no clear structural leadership among the Gen-Z protesters, the next course of action remains unclear. Protester groups held meetings with Nepal Army Chief Gen. Ashok Sigdel on Tuesday evening and Wednesday to discuss possible next steps.

Disagreement has emerged among the Gen-Z campaigners, who have been holding internal discussions on the digital platform Discord, over who should lead an interim administration. Some are backing former Chief Justice Sushila Karki, while others support Balendra Shah, the Mayor of Kathmandu.

Protesters gathered in front of the Army headquarters in Kathmandu late on Wednesday, after failing to reach a consensus. Ms. Karki is widely seen as a clean and upright figure who could have broad public acceptance. Mr. Shah, who is popular among Nepali youth, has already set a precondition that Parliament should be dissolved first.

Flights resume

Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu resumed operations from Wednesday afternoon after remaining shut for over 24 hours. "Due to extraordinary circumstances, all flights were suspended from September 9. However, as per a decision made by the Tribhuvan International Airport Security Committee on September 10, flights will now resume.," the Tribhuvan International Civil Aviation Office said.

In view of the spiralling protests on Tuesday, it was widely expected that the Army would step in immediately. But the consultation between the President and the Army leadership only began late that evening. The Army, which said it was taking over security from Tuesday night, started deploying soldiers on the streets only on Wednesday morning.

Meanwhile, local media reported that Ravilakshmi Chiratkar, wife of former Prime Minister Jhala Nath Khanal, is undergoing treatment after being injured in an arson attack at their residence. Earlier, rumours of her death spread on social media.

Prison break

As soon as the Army took control of security on Wednesday, it faced the challenge of preventing inmates of the Dillibazaar prison, in the heart of Kathmandu, from fleeing custody. The prison break began on Tuesday after Rabi Lamichhane, chief of the Rastriya Swatantra Party, was "released" from Nakkhu prison on the outskirts of Kathmandu, citing security reasons. Officials estimated that close to 1,500 inmates fled the prison. While the Army managed to secure the Dillibazaar prison, over 3,000 inmates from the Bhadra Detention Center in Kathmandu have escaped.

A prison official said that Top Bahadur Rayamajhi, a former Deputy Prime Minister, was among the escapees. Incidents of jail breaks were reported in other parts of the country as well. Officials put the total number of escapees at over 5,000.

(Sanjeev Satgainya is a journalist based in Kathmandu)

Tourists, pilgrims stranded in Nepal

600 pilgrims on Kailash Mansarovar Yatra stranded in Taklakot on the Nepal-China border; tourists take refuge in hotels in Kathmandu and Pokhara as they wait for situation to ease; State governments working with External Affairs Ministry to bring back people and reassure families of their safety

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Tense moments: Passengers wait at Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu after it reopened on Wednesday, following a closure due to civil unrest in Nepal. AFP

Nearly 600 Indian pilgrims who had gone for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra through private tour operators have been stranded in Taklakot on the Nepal-China border. A large number of Indian tourists are also stranded in Kathmandu, Pokhara and other locations across Nepal where the months from October to December is considered to be the peak holiday season.

In view of the prevailing situation, the tourists stranded in Taklakot are unable to enter Nepal and most of them are facing problems due to a lack of accommodation and resources.

Sridhar, a pilgrim from Andhra Pradesh, told *The Hindu* that the situation was dire as many had fallen sick and were in need of urgent medical attention. "We urge the Government of India to help us as there are hundreds of us here and the Nepal border is not yet open," Mr. Sridhar said.

The Ministry of External Affairs said in an advisory that the pilgrims should take "necessary care and precautions" and follow advisories from local authorities as well as the Embassy of India in Beijing.

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Wednesday wrote to External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar seeking urgent intervention to ensure the safe evacuation of a group of tourists from Kerala stranded in Pokhara.

In the letter, Mr. Vijayan said that the anti-government protests in Nepal had taken place near areas where most of the visitors from Kerala, including senior citizens, were staying. Interventions should be made to urgently bring them back home safely, he said.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday said efforts were under way to bring back tourists from the State, who have been stranded in violence-hit Nepal.

"We are also making arrangements from the State government. You stay there for one or two more days. Do not be in a rush to get out and fall into any trouble," Ms. Banerjee said. West Bengal shares about a 100-km border with Nepal.

"If you or someone you know requires assistance for returning to India through Panitanki or Pashupati check post under Darjeeling district, please contact on the numbers given below. Mobile/WhatsApp: 9147889078 Landline: 0354-2252057," the West Bengal Police posted on social media.

Several tourists from Telangana have been stranded in Kathmandu after the airport was shut down. "We arrived in Kathmandu last Saturday on a business trip. We took a 25-minute flight to Pokhara from there and came back. We were supposed to return to Hyderabad on Thursday but are cooped up in our hotel," said Shyam Mohan, a businessman from Malkajgiri.

"As of now, we are safe and confined to our hotel. There is no problem with regard to food and water. But we were terrified when we noticed a hotel about 500 yards away being burned down," he said.

The Maharashtra government is making all efforts to ensure the safe return of tourists from the State stranded in Nepal, Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar said.

"Our top priority is to bring every tourist from Maharashtra back home safely and to reassure their families. There is no need for anyone to panic," he said.

According to preliminary information, around 100 tourists from Thane, Pune, Mumbai, Latur and Kolhapur districts are currently stranded in Nepal.

Air India and IndiGo to operate special flights

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Air India and IndiGo will be operating special flights to Kathmandu to bring back stranded Indians following violent protests that resulted in the airport shutting down for over 24 hours since Tuesday afternoon.

"Many home-bound passengers were unable to return from Kathmandu. With the opening of the airport operation in Kathmandu, @MoCA_GoI, in coordination with Air India & IndiGo, has arranged additional flights this evening & over the next few days," Minister for Civil Aviation K. Rammohan Naidu wrote in a post on X.

Meanwhile, Kathmandu's Tribhovan International Airport resumed flight operations and various airlines announced resumption of flight services from Thursday.

'Duped by agent, 15 Indians pinned down in Ukraine-Russia war zone'

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

Left in lurch: The recruits are reportedly being forced to serve on the Russian side. VIDEO GRAB: SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Two Indian nationals have told *The Hindu* that they are caught in the battlefield in Ukraine, where they are being forced to serve on the Russian side. The two recruits claimed there were at least 13 more Indians with them.

All of them went to Moscow on student or visitor visa in the past six months. They were hired by an agent to work as construction workers but ended up in the war zone, the two men said on telephone from Selydove in Ukraine. Russia claimed Selydove, a key town in the Donetsk region, in November 2024.

A response from the External Affairs Ministry is awaited. The Russian Embassy had said in a statement last year that it no longer recruited Indians into its Army. The assurance came after Prime Minister Narendra Modi raised the issue with Russian President Vladimir Putin during his visit to Moscow in July 2024. The External Affairs Ministry has issued several advisories cautioning Indians from falling prey to such jobs.

Sumit Sharma, 22, a resident of Jammu, said he came to Russia around six months ago and was pursuing a language course at the Moscow State Linguistic University (MSLU).

"To earn extra money, I was looking for odd jobs when a woman contacted me and assured me construction work. I was instead asked to sign papers and enlist in the Russian Army. I came to the camp on August 20 and without any training, they have brought us to an occupied area in Ukraine and are not letting us leave," Mr. Sharma told *The Hindu*.

No help from embassy

He said they had made multiple calls and sent several e-mails to the Indian Embassy in Moscow but no help had reached them.

"There are 15 Indians here. Some were taken to the war zone further ahead and at least four are missing. We are hearing that they have been killed in the war. Please save us," Mr. Sharma said.

Asked why he did not pay heed to advisories by the Indian government, Mr. Sharma said, "I had no idea, the agent promised us good money."

The other residents of the camp released a video in Punjabi where they are seen urging the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government to rescue them.

Gursevak Singh, 26, from Gurdaspur in Punjab, who came to Russia on a student visa, is also among those stuck in the war zone.

"Seven of us have been kept in a building in Ukraine. They are saying they will send me to the forward location tomorrow. A resident of Rajasthan who had come with us and was sent to a forward post has not been reachable for the past four days. He shot a video saying this could be his last. I do not want to meet the same fate," Mr. Singh said.

He said his mother lived in Punjab and before coming to Russia, he used to tend to his fields.

On August 10, 2024, the Russian Embassy said it no longer admitted Indians into its Army. The embassy added it was working in "close coordination" with Indian authorities to help discharge Indian nationals recruited for the war in Ukraine.

The External Affairs Ministry informed the Rajya Sabha on July 24 that there were 127 Indian nationals in the Russian armed forces, of which the services of 98 had been discontinued as a result of sustained engagement between the Indian and Russian governments. The Ministry said 13 Indians remained in the Russian forces, of which 12 were reported missing by the Russian side.

The Hindu reported first on February 20, 2024 that Indians who travelled to Russia on tourist visas were offered jobs as security helpers but were forced to fight alongside the Russian military.

22 Nepal prisoners escape amid unrest, nabbed at U.P. border

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The escapees were apprehended based on a list of prisoners shared by armed forces of Nepal

At least 22 inmates, who escaped from prisons in Nepal following the collapse of the government there, were apprehended by the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) along the Nepal-Uttar Pradesh border on Wednesday, a senior government official said.

The inmates were apprehended on the basis of lists of prisoners shared by the armed forces of Nepal with the SSB. They are at present in the custody of the Uttar Pradesh Police, the official said.

Thousands of prisoners are said to have escaped in Nepal following the massive protests by young people across that country against corruption and nepotism. The escapees were "illegal foreigners" and they would be caught and jailed, another government official said. The U.P. Police is likely to register a case under the Foreigners and Immigration Act, 2025 against the escapees, the official said.

The SSB, a Central armed police force, guards the 1,751-km border with Nepal, and the 699-km India-Bhutan border. The official explained that the movement of people from Nepal to India had substantially fallen after the curfew imposed by the Army.

Nepal and India share an open border, and residents of the neighbouring country are allowed entry without visas and passports based on documents, including driving licences, and government-issued ID cards, among others.

"The armed forces of Nepal have shared the list of inmates who fled the prisons in Nepal, and we apprehended the suspects based on that information. We have deployed personnel at all checkpoints," the official said, adding that the number of such escapees could go up in the coming days.

The official said no additional deployment had been made but personnel had been moved closer to the border, and other possible points had been fortified along with the usual entry points.

Manipur law to regulate issuance of certificates to SC, OBC communities gets Presidential assent

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The law to regulate the issuance of caste certificates for the Scheduled Caste (SC) and Other Backward Class (OBC) communities in Manipur, introduced by the erstwhile Manipur government in 2024 amid the ethnic conflict in the State, has received the assent of the President.

The law was brought by the then Biren Singh government in 2024, and is meant to "prevent fraudulent cases" of people claiming caste status and to bring uniformity in the processes for issuing caste certificates, according to the Bill's Statement of Objects and Reasons.

Manipur has seven communities classified as SC and four communities categorised as OBC. Reservation in public education and employment for SCs is prescribed in the State at 2% and for OBCs at 17%. For Scheduled Tribes (STs), the reservation is 31%.

Detailed vetting process

The provisions of the law set out procedures for applying for caste certificates, competent authorities for issuing the certificates, and scrutiny committees to verify them, offences and penalties, among other things. The Bill had added that most other States had already framed such provisions.

Notably, the law, which received the Presidential assent in July this year, provides for the setting up of one or more Scrutiny Committees, which are meant to verify suspicious caste certificates.

It also gives these committees the power to verify a caste certificate *suo motu*, adding that the decision of the panel would be final and can only be challenged in the High Court.

However, it adds that the certificate of the person will remain valid during the verification process until a final decision is arrived.

While States like Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh do have specific laws to regulate caste certificates, several others regulate through executive orders and circulars. Maharashtra also has provisions for setting up Scrutiny Committees, but Andhra Pradesh has given this power of *suo motu* verification to the District Collector.

'For Hindu Bengalis, CAA is irrelevant'

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said hardly any Hindu Bengalis in the State have taken the Citizenship (Amendment) Act route, as they are certain of their Indianness.

"No reason to suspect Hindu Bengalis, who came before 1971 as foreigners. The CAA has no relevance for them; they have not applied for citizenship under it," Mr. Sarma said.

Congress Whip in Lok Sabha accuses the BJP of 'vote theft' in V-P election

The Opposition has started an informal probe on 'missing' votes; unable to account for three Shiv Sena (UBT), four AAP, and two NCP(SP) votes and one or two from the JMM, says one estimate; Congress is unable to account for one vote, SP for two

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A day after the Vice-Presidential polls, where the Opposition got fewer votes than its collective strength in the two Houses of Parliament, Congress MP and Whip in the Lok Sabha Manickam Tagore accused the BJP of "vote theft" even as a shadow of doubt is being thrown at the Shiv Sena (UBT) and the Aam Aadmi Party for allegedly helping the ruling alliance boost its tally.

Opposition leaders have also started informal investigations into how votes were lost. As per their own estimate, despite pulling off a near-perfect attendance, their candidate was at least 15 votes short of the projected number. According to one estimate, cross-votes or invalid votes were made by members of six parties. "We can't speak about how the NDA [National Democratic Alliance] votes swelled more than their strength. We analysed the 300 votes we got. We cannot account for three Shiv Sena(UBT) votes, four Aam Aadmi Party votes, two NCP (Sharad Pawar) votes and one or two votes from Jharkhand Mukti Morcha. Of course, we cannot authoritatively say whether these were found to be invalid or these members voted with the government," said an Opposition leader, requesting anonymity. The Congress is unable to account for one vote and the Samajwadi Party for two votes.

> Is the Modi-Shah model only about winning through vote *chori*? Will democracy survive if Ministers boast about stealing votes instead of respecting the mandate? Or will people answer the BJP's vote *chori* politics in 2029?
>
> **MANICKAM TAGORE**
> Congress Whip in Lok Sabha

Mr. Manickam Tagore, in a post on X, raised several questions, alluding to "vote *chori*" in the Vice-Presidential election. He asked, "Why is Shinde [Shiv Sena MP Srikanth Shinde] thanking INDIA MPs for voting with NDA? Why is Minister Kiren Rijiju celebrating 'conscience votes' from Opposition MPs? Is this really conscience? Or is this CBI/ED pressure and horse trading being justified as conscience?"

"From Karnataka's Bengaluru Central to Aadhaar-linked voter suppression to now V-P polls. Is the Modi-Shah model only about winning through vote *chori*? Will democracy survive if Ministers boast about stealing votes instead of respecting the mandate? Or will people answer BJP's vote *chori* politics in 2029?"

Striking a different note, the Trinamool Congress's Rajya Sabha Parliamentary Party leader Derek O' Brien said that numbers were not important in an ideological battle. "Let me give you a few numbers, it has been 2,277 days without a Deputy Speaker in Lok Sabha, it has been 861 days since violence began in Manipur, it has been 14 days since U.S. imposed increased tariff on imports from India, it is 966 days that Union Minister J.P. Nadda has overstayed as BJP president, it has been 1,281 days since MGNREGA was stopped in West Bengal and finally, it has been 4,116 days since Prime Minister Narendra Modi answered a question in Lok Sabha," Mr. O' Brien said, stressing that these numbers were far more important to hold the government accountable than the Vice-Presidential election arithmetic.

EC holds CEO conference; reviews preparedness for rolling out nationwide SIR

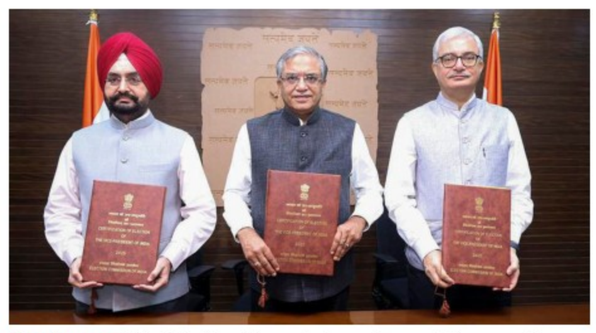
Sreeparna Chakrabarty
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Wednesday held a conference of Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) of all States and Union Territories to assess the preparedness for rolling out a nationwide special intensive revision (SIR) of voter lists.

The commission was planning to roll out the SIR across the country with a single schedule, as of now, sources in the EC said.

The conference was inaugurated by Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar in the presence of Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi. It assessed the preparedness of the offices of the CEOs of all States and Union Territories for the nationwide SIR exercise, an official statement said.

At the beginning of the conference, Bihar CEO Vinod Singh Gunjiyal made a presentation on the strategies, constraints, and best practices adopted in his State, which was the first to roll out the SIR.



Gearing up: Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar with Election Commissioners Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Vivek Joshi. PTI

All other CEOs provided detailed presentations on the number of electors and the qualifying date of the previous SIRs and electoral rolls in their respective States or Union Territories, according to the previous completed SIR. They also presented the status of digitisation and uploading of the electoral roll after the previous SIR on the website of the State and Union Territory CEO.

The officers also provided suggested documents to ensure no eligible citizen was left out of the electoral roll, and no ineligible person was included in it.

The issue assumes importance in light of the controversy surrounding the list of 11 indicative documents, which the EC had sought as part of the SIR exercise in Bihar. However, the Supreme Court had on Monday asked the poll body to add Aadhaar as the 12th document in the Bihar SIR.

EC sources said that though the SIR order of June 24 holds for the entire country, the list of documents could be made more inclusive when the schedule is announced.

The CEOs also provided the status of mapping of current electors with the electors as per the previous SIR, the statement said.

SC flags Governors sitting on Bills as Centre terms dispute a 'false alarm'

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai, heading a five-judge Presidential Reference Bench, on Wednesday pointed to Governors sitting on Bills for years together even as the Union government referred to disputes raised by non-BJP-ruled States such as Tamil Nadu and Kerala over inexplicable gubernatorial delay as a "false alarm".

"How can you say that when Governors are sitting over Bills for four years," Chief Justice Gavai asked the Centre, represented by Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta.

The Reference had followed an April 8 judgment of the court in the *Tamil Nadu Governor* case, which prescribed a three-month timeline for the President and the Governor to decide Bills.

Tamil Nadu had approached the court after the Governor sat on 10 Bills for four years, since 2020.

Mr. Mehta reasoned the Centre was not justifying Governors delaying assent to Bills "endlessly". He had only meant to say that a State and its Governor must act "collaboratively" to ensure the smooth working of the Constitution.

"We are proud of our Constitution, considering what is happening in the neighbouring countries. Like what happened in Nepal yesterday..." Chief Justice Gavai remarked. Justice Vikram Nath mentioned Bangladesh in the same context.

Mr. Mehta said "collaboration" was possible only if both parties (State and Governor) had powers. He argued there was no room for collaboration if the Governor was expected to toe the line of the State Cabinet and mechanically sign Bills put before him for assent.

"The Governor cannot be reduced to an ornamental head of State. We may have had some aberrations, but for the past 55 years, every Governor has acted in a way expected of them, in a collaborative manner," Mr. Mehta submitted.

He objected to the argument by non-BJP-ruled States that instances of Governors delaying Bills had increased after the NDA government came to power in 2014 at the Centre.

Justice Vikram Nath observed that the Reference Bench was not tracing what happened before or after 2014. The court was answering the questions of law raised by the President in the Reference.

Justice P.S. Narasimha tested the Centre's submission that the moment a Governor withheld assent to a Bill in the first instance under Article 200, the proposed law would fail. The judge asked how a Bill passed by both Houses of the State legislature, after due consultation, could be failed by the solitary action of the Governor withholding assent.

"Should there not be a consultative process by which the Bill is returned to the State legislature for reconsideration. This way, both the State Assembly and the Governor get a role to play," Justice Narasimha said.

Appearing for both Tamil Nadu and its ruling party, DMK, senior advocate P. Wilson argued that a Bill was an "expression of political will".

"A Governor cannot act like a constitutional court, adjudicate on the constitutionality of a Bill and unilaterally withhold it... If timelines are not set for gubernatorial assent to Bill, States will be left to wander the corridors of the court," he submitted.

'Sitting ducks'

Advocate Avani Bansal, appearing for Tiruvallur MLA Sasikanth Senthil, said citizens could not be made "sitting ducks" by a Governor who sits on, for example, a health care Bill for years together.

"If the Governor sits indefinitely on a Bill, Article 200 would be made unworkable and superfluous," Advocate-General of Meghalaya Amit Kumar submitted.

The State of Telangana, represented by senior advocate S. Niranjan Reddy, submitted that a Governor's action must be judicially reviewed for discrimination if a law assented to in one State ruled by the same party as in the Centre was disapproved by a Governor in a State governed by a party in the Opposition.

EC sat on Maharashtra vote-rigging case: Congress

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

The Maharashtra Congress has accused the Election Commission (EC) of failing to act on its complaint of vote rigging in the Rajura constituency in the State during the Assembly election held last year.

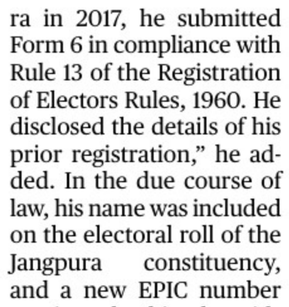
"In the five months between the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections, the voter count in the Rajura constituency increased by 55,000. Between October 1 and October 15, 2024, as many as 11,667 bogus voters were registered online. After Congress candidate Subhash Dhote lodged a formal complaint, 6,853 of these entries were deleted, and an FIR was filed. However, no further action has followed. The Congress had demanded that the IP addresses, email IDs, and mobile numbers used for these fake registrations be revealed. But till date, this information has not been provided," Maharashtra Congress's senior spokesperson Atul Londhe said.

The party said that it will approach a court of law if the commission does not take action within one month.

EC targeted Pawan Khera for posing questions: Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Questioning the Election Commission's notice to senior party leader Pawan Khera, the Congress on Wednesday claimed that Mr. Khera had been targeted because he kept asking questions to the commission.



Pawan Khera

Referring to the show-cause notice issued by the District Election Office (New Delhi District) to Mr. Khera for possessing two elector photo identity cards (EPICs), Congress Working Committee member and spokesperson Abhishek Manu Singhvi said the September 2 notice, through its official X handle, placed his personal details in the public domain even before giving him an opportunity to be heard.

He said Mr. Khera was registered in constituency number 40, New Delhi. "After relocation to Jangpura in 2017, he submitted Form 6 in compliance with Rule 13 of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960. He disclosed the details of his prior registration," he added. In the due course of law, his name was included on the electoral roll of the Jangpura constituency, and a new EPIC number was issued to him, he said.

"A copy of receipt of the Form 6 submitted by him was also provided by the EC on August 18, 2017," he said, adding, "Why did the EC not conduct a brief enquiry into its own records before issuing the notice in the public domain?"

Congress calls for balance in distribution of seats in Bihar

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Wednesday said that a balance must be maintained between "good and bad" seats while deciding on seat sharing among grand alliance partners for the Bihar Assembly election, and stressed that all constituents must contribute from their "kitty" to accommodate new partners.

All India Congress Committee in-charge Krishna Allavaru said the grand alliance would be expanding with more constituents joining its fold.

Asked whether the Voter Adhikar Yatra had given the Congress bargaining power in seat-sharing negotiations with the RJD and other allies, Mr. Allavaru said the alliance had benefited from the campaign as the "vote theft" issue had reached the grassroots. However, he maintained that this should have no bearing on seat-sharing.

Cong. takes a swipe at PM's remark on India-U.S. ties

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Taking a swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his description of India and the U.S. as "natural partners", the Congress on Wednesday asked whether the partnership was so "natural" that U.S. President Donald Trump had claimed credit for brokering an India-Pakistan ceasefire using trade as leverage.

On X, Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh said, "Are they so natural that Trump has declared on over 35 different occasions that he brought about the India-Pakistan ceasefire on the evening of May 10th using trade as the instrument of leverage?"

Opposition questions non-tariff barriers for agricultural exports

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Opposition members raised a host of questions on the non-tariff barriers for Indian agricultural exports to European countries, including the U.K., at a meeting of the Standing Committee on External Affairs headed by senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor on Wednesday.

This meeting comes a day before the EU negotiators sit down with the Indian government to discuss the EU-India Free Trade Agreement.

The two sides have several issues to thrash out, especially the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism and other non-tariff barriers for the Indian agricultural exports. It is learnt that Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal said India would underline the principles of common but differentiated responsibility in development paths.

भारत सरकार - अंतरिक्ष विभाग / GOVERNMENT OF INDIA - DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
निर्माण एवं अनुरक्षण समूह, एसडीएससी-शार / CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP, SDSC-SHAR
श्रीहरिकोटा / नेल्लूर (जिला), आं.प्र. / SRIHARIKOTA - 524124

संक्षिप्त ई–निविदा सूचना / Brief E-TENDER NOTICE

ई–निविदा सूचना सं./ e- Tender Notice No: CMG/C/CON/258715 तिथि/ Date. 09/09/2025

भारत के राष्ट्रपति की ओर से, "शेष कार्य – पैकेज–डी: पैकेज–सी: एसडीएससी शार में अर्ध क्रायो चरण हेतु द्वितीय प्रमोचन मंच संवर्धन परियोजना के लिए सी 32 मुख्य भवन, कड़ीबद्ध बाड़ा, बाढ़ जल विभाजन, इसरोसेन संपर्क सड़क, खाइयों, सुरक्षा आढ़ (मेरलॉन), बहि:स्राव संग्रहण गड्ढा, चरण संपीड़क कक्ष, एलपीटी के लिए एलओएसएफ गलियारा का निर्माण (सिविल एवं जन संपर्क कार्य)" (Rs 249 लाख) के लिए ई–निविदा के माध्यम से मद दर निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं। निविदा दस्तावेज 17/09/2025 को 14:30 बजे तक डाउनलोड किए जा सकते हैं। विस्तृत सूचना हेतु इच्छुक निविदाकार हमारी वेबसाइट www.isro.gov.in या www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO देखें।

On behalf of President of India, Item Rate tenders are invited through e-tendering for **"Balance works for Package - D: Construction of LOSF storage bay for C32 main building, Chain link fencing, Deluge watershed, Isrosene approach road, trenches, Merlon, Effluent collection pit, stage pressurization room, Lpt for SLP Augmentation SDSC SHAR" (Rs 249 Lakhs)**; Tender documents can be downloaded up to 17/09/2025, 14:30 hrs. Interested tenderers may visit www.isro.gov.in or www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO for details.

हस्ताक्षरित- समूह प्रधान, सीएमजी / एसडीएससी शार / Sd/- GROUP HEAD, CMG / SDSC SHAR

GOVERNMENT OF RAJASTHAN
OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT & MEMBER SECRETARY, RAJASTHAN MEDICARE RELIFE SOCIETY, SAWAI MAN SINGH HOSPITAL, JAIPUR
[Sawai Man Singh Road, Tonk Road, Jaipur, Rajasthan 302 001]
{Phone 0141-2518308, 0141 2565647, Email - ms.smshospital@gmail.com}
No.F(4) 2018/SMS/CMS/2025-26/ Dated, the 26/8/25

Notice Inviting Bid

Bids for two years rate contract for the procurement of Generic Drugs & Medicines (E.D.L. & N.R.D.) are invited from interested bidders up to 05.00 PM on 24-09-2025. Other particulars of bid may be visited on the procurement portal (**http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in**) of the state.
UBN No. MCJ2526GLRC00065

Medical Superintendent cum
Member Secretary, RMRS
Sawai Man Singh Hospital, Jaipur
DIPR/C/12705/2025

Office of the Superintending Engineer Water Resources
Circle Nohar Hanumangarh
CORRIGENDUM
(NIB Code-WRN2526A0072)

NIT no. 04/2025-26 issued by this office which was uploaded on SPPP and e-Proc portal on 11.08.2025, in which some amendments have been made. For detailed information and other particulars of the bids may be visited on the procurement portal http://www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in, of the state and www.water.rajasthan.gov.in departmental website.
UBN No.- WRN2526WLOB00228, WRN2526WLOB00229

(Sanjeev Verma)
Superintending Engineer
Water Resources Circle
Nohar
DIPR/C/12572/2025

COCHIN PORT कोचिन पत्तन प्राधिकरण
Cochin Port Authority
Chief Engineer's Office, Cochin – 682 009

E – TENDER NOTICE

No: T9/T-2060/2025-C **Date: 11.09.2025**

On behalf of UT Administration of Lakshadweep, CoPA invites online Bids for Providing PMC Services for the execution of **'Construction of Jetties and Landside Facilities at Kadmath and Kalpeni Islands'.** Details available from **11-09-2025** at **www.cochinport.gov.in, www.tenderwizard.com/COPT and www.tenders.gov.in**

Sd/-
CHIEF ENGINEER
(Ph. 0484-258 2400/2404/9526062899)

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS : TIRUPATI
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS

Roc.No.TTD-33021(47)/14/2025-Health-TPT Dated: 09-09-2025

The Health Department, Tirupati is inviting e-Tenders (1st Call) (On-Line) for **"Sanitation Maintenance at Temples & Buildings under the control of Health Department, TTD, Tirupati for a period of 24 months"** in 02 Packages, vide Id's 843363 & 843480. For information Please contact the Health Department, TTD and for details login to https://apeprocurement.gov.in

TTD-40021/10/2025-PRO SEC(Adv.No.217), Date: 10.09.2025 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Government of Rajasthan
Additional Director [State Insurance And Provident Fund]
(General Insurance Fund)
D-block, Second Floor, Vitta Bhawan, Janpath, Jyoti Nagar, Jaipur

Notice Inviting Tender

RFP Reference No. : GIF/MMPBY/BSA/2025-26/2941 DATE :- 01-09-2025
UBN No. IPF2526SLOB00028
NIB No. IPF2526A0028

In Reference to the RFP for services of the Base line Survey Agency for survey work under Mukhyamantri Mangla Pashu Bima Yojna, is issued and can be accessed form http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in, http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in and https://sipf.rajasthan.gov.in

Estimated cost of bid Rs. 30.60 Cr.

Place : Jaipur
Date : 01-09-2025
-Sd-
Ritu Nanda
Additional Director (GIS)
SI&PF, Department,
Vitta Bhawan, Jaipur.
DIPR/C/13044/2025

Karnataka Urban Water Supply & Drainage Board
Office of the Chief Engineer Dharwad
Sir.M. Vishveshvarayya Road, Jalamandali Compound, Dharwad-580 001
Tel No: 0836-2447090 E-mail: kwbcen@ gmail.com

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (Through e-Procurement Portal only)

Tender for the following work is invited (two tender document system) through e-Procurement portal (https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in) from the eligible Agency / contractors who satisfy the Technical & Financial eligibility criteria. This office Tender Notification No: 1350 Dated: 09-09-2025. Providing short term measures for Under Ground Drainage System to Karwar city under NGT with O and M for 5 years of the UGD system including defect liability period of one year. (CALL-10) INDENT NO. KUWSDB / 2024-25/WS/WORK_INDENT/303/CALL-4. For further information visit e-procurement portal or Office of the Chief Engineer, K.U.W.S & D. Board, Dharwad may be contacted.

Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER,
DIPR/Dwd/650/DeshpandePublicity-2025-26 KUWS & D BOARD, DHARWAD.

INBRIEF

Digital platform to preserve tribal art, culture launched

The Union Tribal Affairs Ministry on Wednesday launched the beta version of "Adi Sanskriti", a digital platform for "tribal artforms and heritage". Officials said it had been envisioned to become the "world's first Digital University to preserve and promote the culture and knowledge of tribal communities". The digital platform will have an online marketplace, opening up a digital market for products made by tribal artisans in India. The platform consists of three components: Adi Vishwavidyalaya (Digital Tribal Art Academy), Adi Sampada (Socio-Cultural Repository), and Adi Haat (digital marketplace).

Centre approves doubling of Bhagalpur-Rampurhat line

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Wednesday approved the doubling of the Bhagalpur-Dumka-Rampurhat railway line section spanning 177 km in Bihar, Jharkhand, and West Bengal at a cost of ₹3,169 crore. The enhanced line capacity will improve mobility, providing enhanced efficiency and service reliability, a Railways spokesperson said. The multi-tracking proposal will ease operations and reduce congestion, providing infrastructure development on the busiest sections across Railways, the spokesperson added. This is an essential route for transportation of items such as coal, cement, fertilizer, bricks and stones. The project covers five districts in the three States.

Airports face user fee cuts for poor passenger service

Regulatory body to devise uniform standards for all airports; parameters include wait time, check-in time, security screening, availability of help desks, time to travel between terminals

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

Airports may face deduction in user development fees collected from air travellers if passenger amenities fall short, the country's airport tariff regulator has proposed in its first draft of performance standards focused on passenger experience.

"It is high time that there was a mechanism to evaluate airports on service delivery benchmarks, especially when airport infrastructure is being funded by users to a large extent," Airports Economic Regulatory Authority (AERA) Chairman S.K.G. Rahate said at a public consultation here on a paper on performance standards for airports.

Third-party audit

In a first, the AERA plans appoint a third party to monitor the service delivery. At present, airports carry out an audit of the services through a third-party hired by them.

Service delivery parameters that will be considered include wait time at security queues at terminal gate, check-in time, security screening inside airport, availability of help desks, time taken to travel between various terminals, cloakroom, sensory rooms for travellers with special needs, as well as availability of e-gates, Digi Yatra, and self-baggage drop. Cleanliness levels, conduct of airport staff, and availability of WiFi will also be looked into. The draft also focuses on amenities for persons with reduced mobility, and has provided a checklist that airports will have to follow, which includes accessible airport approach and washrooms, and designated seating.

Performance standards: The draft focuses on key amenities, and has provided a checklist that airports will adhere. FILE PHOTO

At the Delhi airport, domestic passengers pay ₹129 as the user development fee, and international flyers pay ₹650 when travelling economy class and ₹810 for business class travel. The Bengaluru airport charges ₹550 for domestic travellers and ₹1,500 for international passengers. The fee at the Mumbai airport is ₹175 for domestic travellers and ₹695 for those travelling abroad.

Failure to meet performance metrics could result in a reduction of up to 5% on the tariff collected by airports such that it results in a reduced user development fee. In airports where user fees are not levied, the AERA proposes to lower aircraft landing charges. The cut in tariff will be determined after a six-month review.

High performance in certain parameters could result in a bonus of up to 1.25% on the tariff through a credit system that will be used to offset applicable penalties from the AERA.

While concessionaire agreements signed between the Airports Authority of India (AAI) and private entities (which are leased airports under public-private partnerships for operations, management and development) do have service benchmarks, this is the first attempt to create a uniform set of standards for all airports.

Mr. Rahate told *The Hindu* that penalising airports through a cut in user development fee resulting in savings for air travellers was in line with the passenger focus of the entire move. Such a mechanism would be integrated into the tariff determination process that is undertaken for a five-year cycle for major airports.

There are over 30 major airports in the country, which altogether handle more than 90% of the passenger traffic.

Months-long delay in ST fellowship fund hits research scholars

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

The association has also called for setting up a grievance redress system. FILE PHOTO

Research scholars from Scheduled Tribe communities across the country have reported months-long delays and irregularities in the disbursement of funds under the National Fellowship for Scheduled Tribes (NFST), a scholarship programme administered by the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

Ministry officials said funds had temporarily run out due to a hike in the fellowship amount, but have recently been replenished through an additional allocation. Multiple scholars from the 2024-25 batch are yet to receive their first fellowship amount nearly one year into their Ph.D. work, while those from the 2023-24 batch reported a backlog of around seven months in fund disbursement. As a result, they are forced to pay out of their own pockets to conduct experiments and present papers at conferences, and borrow money for field research.

The All India Research Scholars Association on Wednesday wrote to Union Tribal Affairs Minister Jual Oram and Secretary Vibhu Nayyar about the issues faced by NFST scholars, demanding the immediate release of pending funds, and the streamlining of the disbursal process. The association has also called for setting up a grievance redressal system for all fellowship-related issues.

Officials told *The Hindu* that the fund earmarked for the NFST scheme for the five-year period from 2021-22 to 2025-26 was exhausted in September 2024 "because the amount of scholarship was increased to ₹37,000". While the Ministry had sought an additional budget allocation of ₹220 crore for the scheme, the sanction for this came through only last month, the official said. "The pending fellowships should come through in 10 to 15 days," the official added.

The NFST scheme offers 750 scholarships each year for candidates pursuing M.Phil. or Ph.D. degrees, which are to be paid in quarterly instalments for a maximum period of five years.

ISRO inks agreement with HAL for transfer of SSLV technology

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Indian Space Research Organisation signed a formal agreement with Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. on Wednesday for the transfer of technology for production of small satellite launch vehicles (SSLV), marking a significant step in industry participation in the space sector.

The agreement, the 100th transfer of technology agreement facilitated by the space sector promoter INSPACe, was inked in Bengaluru by the ISRO, NewSpace India Ltd., and INSPACe with HAL, which outbid a consortium led by Adani Group-backed Alpha Design Technologies.

The aim is to complete the entire technology transfer process within 24 months from the date of signing the agreement, a statement from INSPACe said. During this period, the ISRO will provide training and technical support to the HAL for acquiring the know-how of the SSLV, it added.

ISRO Chairman V. Narayanan said the agreement would allow the HAL to independently build the SSLV for both domestic and international markets.

"We are honoured to be in this league to scale India's next big frontiers with the SSLV technology, by partnering with ISRO and NSIL and IN-SPACe to implement it," D.K. Sunil, Chairman and Managing Director of HAL, said.

Mr. Sunil said HAL would build SSLVs so that India could offer regular, cost-competitive small-satellite launches to domestic and global customers.

RSS chief dedicated entire life to social change: PM

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

Describing Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh chief Mohan Bhagwat as an "extraordinary" individual who has imbibed continuity and adaptation in his working and always kept the nation first, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has hailed him on his 75th birthday, which falls on Thursday.

Showering praises on Mr. Bhagwat in an article released to the media, Mr. Modi termed him a "wise and hard working" *Sarsanghchalak*, who had dedicated his entire life to societal transformation and strengthening the spirit of harmony and fraternity. Recalling his association with Mr. Bhagwat's father, the Prime Minister said the late Madhukarrao Bhagwat had devoted himself to nation-building and played a pivotal role in strengthening the RSS across Gujarat. "Such was Madhukarrao *Ji*'s passion towards nation-building that it groomed his son, Mohanrao, to work towards India's regeneration. It is as if *Parasmani* Madhukarrao prepared another *Parasmani* in Mohanrao," he said.

Honouring efforts

Mr. Modi hailed the work done by Mr. Bhagwat as a *pracharak* in rural and backward areas of Maharashtra, especially Vidarbha, which, he said, has shaped his understanding of the challenges faced by the poor and downtrodden. Mr. Bhagwat, he said, has always steered the Sangh through very complex currents and never compromised on its core ideology.

"Being *Sarsanghchalak* is more than an organisational responsibility. Extraordinary individuals have defined this role through personal sacrifice, clarity of purpose and unshakable commitment to *Maa Bharti*. Mohan *Ji*, in addition to doing full justice to the enormity of the responsibility, has also brought to it his own strength, intellectual depth and empathetic leadership, all of which is inspired by the principle of Nation First," Mr. Modi said.

On the same page: Prime Minister Narendra Modi with RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat at an event in Nagpur. FILE PHOTO

'Most transformative'

He described Mr. Bhagwat's tenure as the "most transformative" period in the 100-year journey of the RSS. He pointed out the changes brought by him in the Sangh such as a change in uniform and modifications in the *Shiksha Vargs* (training camps). He outlined Mr. Bhagwat's nature of addressing the evolving needs of society and recalled how during the COVID-19 pandemic, suggested increased usage of technology to continue the work of the RSS. Sharing different traits of Mr. Bhagwat's character, he said that his ability to connect with people and youth had made many youngsters join the Sangh. He praised the RSS chief for encouraging the Sangh's volunteers to actively participate in mass movements such as the Swachh Bharat Mission and Beti Bachao Beti Padhao.

Calling it a pleasant coincidence that this year, Vijaya Dashami, Gandhi Jayanti, Lal Bahadur Shastri Jayanti, and the RSS centenary celebrations were on the same day, he said it would be a historic milestone for lakhs of people associated with the Sangh in India and the world.

Nurturing values

"Earlier this year, during the inauguration of the Madhav Netra Chikitsalaya in Nagpur, I had remarked that the RSS is like an *Akshayavat*, an eternal banyan tree that energises the national culture and collective consciousness of our nation. The roots of this *Akshayavat* are deep and strong because they are anchored in values. The dedication with which Mohan Bhagwat *Ji* has committed himself to nurturing and advancing these values is truly inspirational," he said wishing Mr. Bhagwat a long and healthy life.

He hailed the concept of *Panch Parivartan* introduced by Mr. Bhagwat, which comprises social harmony, family values, environmental awareness, national selfhood, and civic duties.

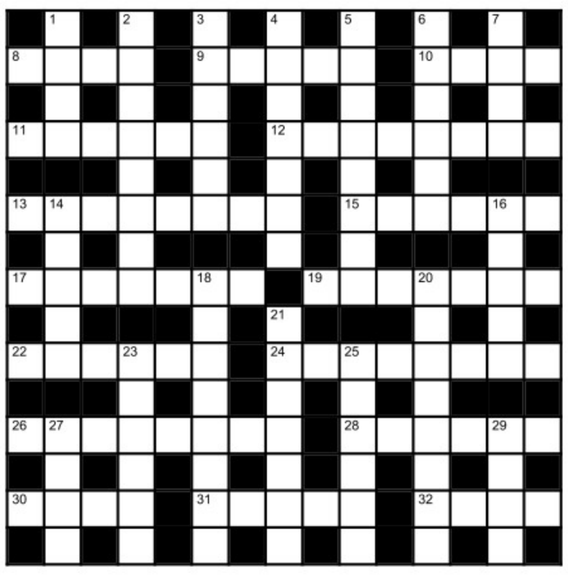
"Every *Swayamsevak* dreams of seeing a strong and prosperous nation. To realise this dream, what is required is both clear vision and decisive action. Mohan *Ji* embodies both these qualities in abundance," he said. He hailed Mr. Bhagwat for being a votary of *Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat* and a firm believer in India's diversity.

TH CROSSWORD + 14586

(set by Incognito)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Mimicry artist in diapers (4)
9 Smell some blood ourselves (5)
10 Small island? Fabricated lies! (4)
11 Test tutor wandering around university terminus (3,3)
12 Mythical creatures have love for cavalrymen (8)
13 French leader's Spanish exclamation after small snooze on first of October and November (8)
15/17 Actor protects river near of end of bridge initially (6,7)
19 Boredom may be ridiculous in this place (7)
22 Inventor's horrible noise around commencement of dinner (6)
24 A small volume it spread around lair results in mishap (8)
26 Its milk may help you go... (8)
28 Reply, "American news is incorrect, right?" (6)
30 Prison agitation (4)
31 Take away weapons from peacekeeper having a registered musket initially (5)
32 Bone bits missing in Istanbul crash (4)

Down

1 Yes, I hear 3 consecutive letters carried on Roman standards (1,1,1,1)
2 Crees too manufactured coal tar product (8)
3 At first, greatest of all times gets East European beard (6)
4 Having no daughters, taking gin cocktail for a kind of acquaintance (7)
5 Wrongly blame rep for foreword (8)
6 Lennon's wife follows Kipling character to get oriental dress (6)
7 Dash and change lane (4)
14 Insect found in photograph identified (5)
16 Recognised king at present, no? (5)
18 Arranging raid on US for producing extinct reptile (8)
20 Dries leaves on a horse, perhaps (5,3)
21 California's legendary king at last gives up a mobile home (7)
23 Guard from southern gate designated for going in (6)
25 Alleges setter is surrounded by many shellfish (6)
27 Drink sourced from Samastipur (4)
29 Mountain having alien name setter ignored (4)

SUDOKU

5		1		2	9	6	7	
							8	9
4					7		3	
			6			8		1
6		5			4			
	5		7					8
3	2							
	8	4	2	3		9		5

No.SS6638 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	1	5	6	4	2	9	3	7
4	2	9	7	5	3	1	6	8
3	6	7	8	9	1	4	2	5
9	3	2	1	7	6	8	5	4
5	8	1	4	3	9	6	7	2
6	7	4	5	2	8	3	1	9
2	5	8	3	6	4	7	9	1
7	4	6	9	1	5	2	8	3
1	9	3	2	8	7	5	4	6

FAITH

Avoid blaming others

When King Pareekshit sees a bull and a cow being beaten by a man dressed like a king, he says, "Why do you torment these creatures? Did you think that because the Pandavas are no more, you can do so? I, as their representative, will ensure that justice is done." The bull praises Pareekshit for following in the footsteps of the Pandavas. The bull has only one leg, and Pareekshit asks it who is responsible for its state. The bull is, in fact, Dharma devata, said Valayapet Ramachariar in a discourse.

Instead of blaming anyone, Dharma devata says different people have different theories about his suffering. The atheists do not believe in *papa* or *punya*. But there are some who say the bull suffers because of its karma. Some say it is just *svabhava* (nature) doing its job. Thus, the bull does not point fingers at anyone, further reinforcing the fact that it is the devata of Dharma. It is said in the Sastras that we must avoid blaming others for something that happens. The bull acts in accordance with this dharmic rule, when it does not blame anyone directly for its plight. One who knows dharma is aware that everything happens according to God's plans. There is now no doubt in Pareekshit's mind that the bull is Dharma devata, for how else would it know the intricacies of dharmic laws? He tells the bull that he has recognised it as Dharma devata.

Dharma sastras say we must not betray anyone. Suppose a thief hides in your house. If the men chasing him ask you about the thief, you must lie to protect him! The thief has taken refuge in your house, and you must not do anything that will harm him. If he is betrayed, then his sins will come to the account of the one who betrays him.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	WEDNESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	81,425	0.40
US Dollar	88.11	0.04
Gold	1,13,000	0.22
Brent oil	67.74	0.00

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2340.20	28.60
Adani Ports	1389.10	8.20
Apollo Hosp	7929.00	103.50
Asian Paints	2543.30	6.00
Axis Bank	1070.10	17.90
Bajaj Auto	9244.00	-139.00
Bajaj Finserv	2038.20	12.90
Bajaj Finance	967.95	19.55
Bharat Elec	388.05	16.10
Bharti Airtel	1891.40	-2.30
Cipla	1563.80	12.20
Coal India	391.90	3.95
Dr Reddys Lab	1304.20	12.90
Eicher Motors	6836.50	-38.00
Eternal Ltd.	324.40	-1.30
Grasim Ind	2785.80	-10.10
HCL Tech	1463.90	36.80
HDFC Bank	965.90	0.75
HDFC Life	777.60	16.50
Hero MotoCorp	5350.50	-73.00
Hindalco	743.15	0.25
Hind Unilever	2643.50	1.50
ICICI Bank	1403.90	0.20
IndusInd Bank	751.25	5.10
Infosys	1532.60	28.30
ITC	413.05	3.00
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	310.05	2.10
JSW Steel	1101.20	-3.30
Kotak Bank	1973.30	12.90
L&T	3550.00	25.00
M&M	3604.40	-91.90
Maruti Suzuki	15108.00	-257.00
NestleIndia	1217.50	15.30
NTPC	325.65	1.55
ONGC	231.74	0.41
PowerGrid Corp	282.95	-0.90
Reliance Ind	1377.00	0.80
SBI Life	1833.70	28.00
State Bank	818.20	9.35
Shriram Finance Ltd.	604.80	9.80
Sun Pharma	1593.40	1.70
TataConsumerProduct	1101.00	17.50
Tata Motors	709.10	-6.45
Tata Steel	169.43	0.28
TCS	3110.00	60.60
Tech Mahindra	1526.00	27.80
Titan	3620.60	-9.50
Trent Ltd.	5193.00	-25.50
UltraTech Cement	12478.00	-94.00
Wipro	255.75	6.60

India resists full crypto framework, fears systemic risks

Official document cites the RBI's view that containing the risks of cryptocurrencies through regulation would be difficult in practice

Reuters
NEW DELHI

Cryptic crypto: Regulating cryptocurrencies in India may cause the sector to become systemic, the document says. AFP

India is leaning towards not creating legislation to regulate cryptocurrencies in the country and instead will maintain partial oversight, fearing that bringing the digital assets into its mainstream financial system could raise systemic risks, a government document shows.

The document, seen by *Reuters*, cites the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) view that, in practice, containing the risks of cryptocurrencies through regulation would be difficult.

Global acceptance of cryptocurrencies has improved since U.S. President Donald Trump took office and prices of bitcoin have hit record highs.

The U.S. has also passed legislation permitting wider use of stablecoins, which are cryptocurrencies backed by fiat currencies making them less vulnerable to wild swings.

China continues to ban cryptocurrencies but is considering a Yuan-backed stablecoin, *Reuters* reported last month. Although, Japan and Australia are developing regulatory frameworks for such virtual assets, they maintain a cautious stance without actively promoting the sector. Regulating cryptocurrencies in India would grant them "legitimacy", and "may cause the sector to become systemic", the government document, prepared this month, said.

In contrast, while an outright ban can tackle the "alarming" risks from largely speculative crypto assets, it would not be able to tackle peer-to-peer transfers or trades on decentralised exchanges, it added.

India's federal finance ministry and the RBI did not immediately respond to *Reuters* request for comment.

Equity MF inflows fall 22% MoM in Aug. to ₹33,430 cr.

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Equity mutual fund (MF) inflows fell 22% month on month in August 2025 to ₹33,430 crore compared with ₹42,702 crore in July, but August marked the 54th conservative month of positive inflows, according to data released by the Association of Mutual Finds in India (AMFI) on Wednesday.

August 2024 had witnessed net equity MF inflows of ₹38,239 crore.

As per AMFI data, net AUM stood at ₹75,18,702.50 crore for August as against ₹75,35,970.68 crore in the previous month. Mutual fund folios were higher at 24,89,09,424 as of August compared with 24,57,24,339 in July.

Retail MF folios (equity, hybrid and solution-oriented schemes) were at 19,64,01,310 as against 19,41,95,038 in July. The SIP AUM was at ₹ 15,18,368 crore for August and accounted for 20.2% of the total MF industry assets.

'India set to be among top five shipbuilding nations by 2047'

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Shantanu Thakur

With less than 1% share in global shipbuilding currently, India is on course to be among the world's top five countries in this arena by 2047, according to the Centre. "The Government of India, through the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways and the Directorate General of Shipping, is committed to positioning India as a new hub for shipbuilding," Shantanu Thakur, Minister of State, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India, said here on Wednesday.

"The nation has a clear goal of ranking among the top 10 maritime nations by 2030 and among the top 5 by 2047," he said, speaking at INMEX SMM India 2025, organised by Informa Markets in India. He said shipbuilding and repair would serve as vital growth engines of India's 'blue economy', generating employment, enhancing global competitiveness, and driving sustainability through green shipping initiatives and modernised infrastructure.

"While the maritime sector currently contributes 4% to India's GDP and just 1% of global tonnage, the vision is to raise its share to 12% of national GDP and advance it from the 16th position globally to the fifth by 2047," said Shyam Jagannathan, Director General of Shipping, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

"Indian seafarers already represent 12% of the global workforce, with a goal to expand this to around 25%, making shipbuilding and repair central to this transformation," he said.

He said the government was strongly supporting the ambition through initiatives such as the Shipbuilding Finance Assistance Scheme, the Maritime Development Fund, shipbuilding and repair clusters, a National Shipbuilding Mission, the Shipbreaking Credit Note scheme, and upfront subsidies of up to 30% for non-conventional builds.

"Under Maritime India Vision India is firmly on course to emerge as a global maritime superpower," he emphasised.

Sabyasachi Hajara, Chairman, INMEX SMM India Advisory Board, said, "The Government of India has taken unprecedented measures to boost the maritime sector, including the establishment of a $3 billion Maritime Development Fund, with nearly 45% earmarked for shipbuilding and ship repair, and 20% for building Indian tonnage, alongside investments in port infrastructure and coastal shipping."

INBRIEF

PhonePe partners with SIDBI, MSME Ministry on Udyam

PhonePe will work with the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), and the Small Industries Development Bank of India, to register more small merchants with the Udyam facility, thereby opening up more avenues for credit and availing government schemes, the company said. Udyam is a platform to formalise more MSMEs, and SIDBI has already worked on an "assist platform" to make it easier for merchants to register for an Udyam number.

ICRA flags SME exposure risk, feels FD rates have bottomed

ICRA on Wednesday flagged lenders' exposure to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) as a potential source of risk. The agency also noted that the fixed deposit offerings by banks have bottomed out, and further reductions are less likely if the RBI holds on to the rates. The agency has retained the banking system's credit growth for FY26 at 10.5%, while projecting assets under management of NBFCs to grow by 15-17%. PTI

Zomato, Uber partner with govt. for road safety initiative

Zomato and Uber on Wednesday announced that they would distribute promotional material on road safety in partnership with the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH). With notification, video and in-app messages under the Sadak Suraksha Abhiyan (road safety scheme), the firms will share road safety tips and announcements on their respective apps. Much of the promotional material, starring Amitabh Bachchan, was written by Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) chairperson Prasoon Joshi.

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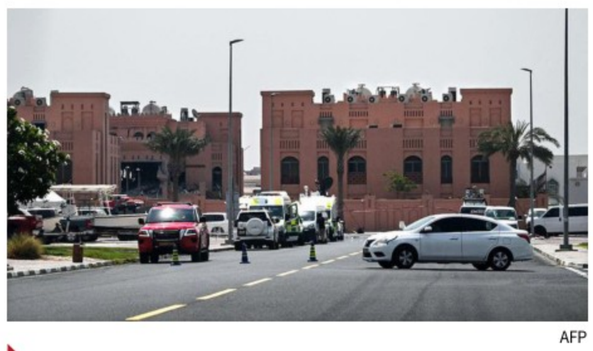
WASHINGTON

Trump issues rare rebuke to Netanyahu over Qatar strikes

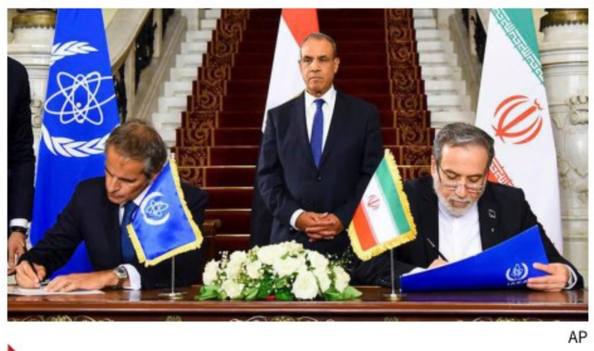


AFP

U.S. President Donald Trump gave Benjamin Netanyahu a rare slap on the wrist on Tuesday over Israel's strikes against Hamas in Qatar, as he insisted he played no role in the attack by one close U.S. ally against another. "We want the hostages back, but we are not thrilled about the way that went down," he said in Washington. AFP

VIENNA

UN nuclear watchdog says new Iran deal covers 'all facilities'



AP

Iran's new cooperation framework with the UN nuclear watchdog includes "all facilities and installations" in the Islamic republic, the agency's head said Wednesday — though Iran said the agreement itself "does not create access". Iran agreed on a deal with the International Atomic Energy Agency on Tuesday. AFP

SANAA

Israel launches deadly strike on media arm of Yemen's Houthis

AP

Israeli air strikes hit the media operation of Yemen's Houthi rebels on Wednesday, killing and wounding an unspecified number of people, the group said. The Israeli military said it struck Huthi rebel targets in Yemen, including in Sanaa, in the latest of a series of attacks during the Gaza war. AFP

ISLAMABAD

Pak. court sentences 17 supporters of Imran Khan over 2023 riots

REUTERS

A Pakistani court has handed down jail terms of 10 years each to 17 supporters of former Prime Minister Imran Khan in a 2023 riot case. Anti-Terrorism Court Lahore pronounced the verdict on Tuesday in the case related to torching a Supreme Court judge squad's vehicle in the city during May 9, 2023, protests. PTI

Poland shoots Russian drones that entered airspace during Kyiv strike

Russia says it did not target Poland, while ally Belarus says it tracked some drones that 'lost their course' as they were jammed; Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk tells parliament that 19 violations by Moscow were recorded over seven hours

Associated Press
WARSAW

Poland said on Wednesday that multiple Russian drones entered its territory over the course of several hours and were shot down with help from NATO allies, describing the incursion as an "act of aggression" carried out during a wave of Russian strikes on Ukraine.

Russia's Defence Ministry said it did not target Poland, but close ally, Belarus, said it tracked some drones that "lost their course" because they were jammed. However, several European leaders said they believe that the incursion amounted to an intentional escalation by Russia of its war on Ukraine.

Collateral damage: A police officer watches as firefighters work on the destroyed roof of a house in Wyryki in Poland. REUTERS

Poland said some of the drones came from Belarus, where Russian and Belarusian troops have begun gathering for war games starting on Friday.

Polish airspace has been violated many times since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022, but there has been nothing on this scale in Poland or in any other Western nation along the eastern flank of NATO and the European Union. A NATO spokesman said it was the first time the alliance has confronted a potential threat in its airspace.

NATO met to discuss the incident, which came three days after Russia's largest aerial attack on Ukraine since the war began.

"Russia's war is escalating, not ending," European Union foreign policy chief Kaja Kallas said. "Last night in Poland we saw the most serious European airspace violation by Russia since the war began, and indications suggest it was intentional, not accidental."

The extent of the incursion was still becoming clear: Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk told parliament 19 violations were recorded over seven hours, but that information was still being gathered. Eight crash sites have been found. Dutch fighter jets came to Poland's aid and intercepted some drones, the Netherlands' Defence Minister said.

Chemmani mass grave probe will continue: Sri Lanka govt.

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's Ministry of Justice and National Integration has refuted recent media reports claiming that the exhumation at the mass grave site in Chemmani, in the northern Jaffna district, has been halted owing to a "lack of funds".

"At no stage has there been a suspension or delay due to lack of funds," and media reports claiming so are "inaccurate and risk spreading misinformation among the public", the Ministry said in a statement.

Last week, the *Press Trust of India* published a news report headlined 'Excavation of Sri Lanka's Chemmani mass grave halted over lack of funds'.

Officials said that at no stage has there been a suspension or delay due to lack of funds. AP

Reaffirming its "firm commitment" to supporting the judicial process, the Justice Ministry said funds for the excavations are allocated based on requests made by the Jaffna Magistrate's Court and the Judicial Medical Officer (JMO). In every instance, the full amount was released based on such requests, it said, adding that the "imprest was released on time, in phases, and strictly according to necessity". The budget for phase three, to be presented to the Jaffna High Court, will be forwarded to the Ministry for approval, said the statement dated September 8.

Jamaat-e-Islami wins Dhaka varsity polls

Press Trust of India
DHAKA

This is the first such victory for an Islamist student group in Bangladesh since 1971

The student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami swept the Dhaka University's students union elections, the results of which were declared on Wednesday, the first such victory for an Islamist student group since Bangladesh's independence in 1971.

The student front of former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia's Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) rejected the results, alleging "planned manipulation" and termed the polls a "farce".

The Jamaat-backed Islami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) won nine of the 12 Dhaka University Central Students Union (DUCSU) posts, the elections for which were held on Tuesday. ICS candidate Sadik Qayem as declared vice-president and SM Farhad General Secretary. The President's post remains reserved for the vice-chancellor.

Observers say this was the first time since 1971 that an Islamist student group has won any university election in Bangladesh.

French police arrest 250 during clashes with protesters as Macron installs new PM

Associated Press
PARIS

Protesters blocked roads, lit blazes and were met with volleys of tear gas on Wednesday in Paris and elsewhere in France, heaping pressure on President Emmanuel Macron and making new Prime Minister Sébastien Lecornu's first day in office a baptism of fire.

The Interior Ministry announced 250 arrests in the first hours of what was a planned day of nationwide demonstrations against Mr. Macron, budget cuts and other complaints.

Although falling short of its self-declared intention to "Block Everything," the protest movement that started online over the summer caused widespread hot spots of disruption, defying an exceptional deployment of 80,000 police who broke up barricades and swiftly made arrests. Interior Minister Bruno Retailleau said that a bus was set on fire in the western city of Rennes. In the southwest, fire damage to electrical cables stopped train services on one line and disrupted traffic on another.

Flaring rage: A protester shouts during a demonstration in front of the Gare du Nord train station in Paris on Wednesday. REUTERS

The protests appeared so far to be less intense than previous bouts of unrest that have sporadically rocked Mr. Macron in both his first and ongoing second term as President.

Nevertheless, demonstrations and sporadic clashes with riot police in Paris and elsewhere Wednesday added to a sense of crisis that has again gripped France following its latest government collapse on Monday, when Prime Minister François Bayrou lost a parliamentary confidence vote.

Sri Lanka cuts perks for former Presidents

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

Sri Lanka's Parliament on Wednesday voted to cut perks and privileges accorded to former Presidents or their widows, as the ruling National People's Power tries to keep its poll pledge of weeding out corruption and slashing excessive state expenditure.

Two-thirds majority

Passed with a two-thirds majority – which the ruling coalition enjoys – the vote repealed the Presidents' Entitlements Act, a 1986 law that allowed provision of a residence or a monthly allowance, secretarial allowance, official transport, to a former President or the widow of a former President; and monthly pension paid to the widow of a former President.

It came a day after Parliamentary Speaker Jagath Wickramaratne informed the House of the Supreme Court's determination – half a dozen petitions sought to challenge the government's move to repeal the law – that the President's Entitlements (Repeal) Bill did not violate the Constitution, and that a simple majority would suffice to enact it. "We are repealing the 1986 Act to save taxpayers' money," Minister of Justice Harshana Nanayakkara told Parliament.

Sport

Indian women begin Super 4s with a bang

HOCKEY

Press Trust of India
HANGZHOU

India continued its unbeaten run with a comfortable 4-2 win over Korea in its first Super 4s match of the women's Asia Cup hockey tournament here on Wednesday.

India scored through Vaishnavi Vitthal Phalke (second minute), Sangita Kumari (33rd), Lalremsiami (40th), and Rutuja Dadaso Pisal (59th).

Yujin Kim (33rd, 53rd) found the target for Korea. India will play China on Thursday.

In the 22nd minute, Mumtaz's reverse hit, after being set up by Neha and Navneet, was saved by the Korean goalkeeper.

Breaking away: Lalremsiami scored a brilliant field goal in India's romp. X@THEHOCKEYINDIA

But the joy was short-lived as Korea pulled one back through Kim's penalty corner conversion.

In the 40th minute, Lalremsiami scored a brilliant field goal to extend India's lead to 3-1. But it was Korea which reduced the margin against the run of play off a penalty corner, ably converted by Kim again, in the 53rd minute.

India replied when Rutuja scored off a rebound in the 59th minute to seal the issue.

The result:

India 4 (Vaishnavi 2, Sangita 33, Lalremsiami 40, Rutuja 59) bt Korea 2 (Kim 33 & 53).

Heartbreak for India despite thumping win

FOOTBALL

Press Trust of India
DOHA

The India under-23 men's football team was eliminated from the AFC U23 Asian Cup Qualifiers despite defeating Brunei Darussalam 6-0 in its final group match here.

The Blue Colts finished with six points from their three matches. The team had to wait for the outcome of the other Group H match between Qatar and Bahrain at the Abdullah bin Khalifa Stadium in Doha, which the hosts won 2-1, coming back from a goal down to score twice in injury time.

Qatar finished top of the group with nine points from three matches, while India ended up second with six points.

While the four best second-placed teams (from 11 groups) also qualified, India finished the campaign at number five amongst the group runner-ups.

India started with a bang when Muhammed Suhail weaved into the box and cut it back for Vibin, who rode a tackle, before finishing it from close range to give his side the lead in the fifth minute.

India pressed on in the second half, laying a siege on the Brunei penalty area, but it took them a little over 15 minutes after the restart to score the fourth.

Aimen added two more goals to make it 6-0 for the Blue Colts.

Sindhu bows out; Prannoy, Kiran and Lakshya advance

BADMINTON

Press Trust of India
HONG KONG

P.V. Sindhu bowed out, while H.S. Prannoy and Lakshya Sen advance in the Hong Kong Open Super 500 tournament here on Wednesday.

Prannoy humbled 14th ranked Lu Guang Zu of China in 44 minutes, while Lakshya got his campaign going with a win over Taiwan's T.W. Wang to secure a place in the men's singles pre-quarterfinals.

Sindhu lost the women's singles round-of-32 contest to unseeded Danish shuttler Line Christophersen.

Kiran George also secured a place in the men's singles last-16 getting the better of Singapore's higher-ranked Jia Heng Jason Teh.

To the fore: Prannoy humbled the higher-ranked Lu in a gruelling contest. FILE PHOTO

Ayush Shetty overcame Taiwan shuttler Su Li Yang to secure a place in the last-16 in men's singles.

The results (first round):

Men: H.S. Prannoy bt Lu Guang Zu (Chn) 21-17, 21-14; Lakshya Sen bt T.W. Wang (Tai) 22-20, 16-21, 21-15; Kiran George bt Jia Heng Jason Teh (Sin) 21-16, 21-11; Ayush Shetty bt Su Li Yang (Tai) 15-21, 21-19, 21-13.

Women: Line Christophersen (Den) bt P.V. Sindhu 15-21, 21-16, 21-19. **Doubles:** Rutaparna Panda & Swetaparna Panda bt Oi Ki Vanessa Pang & Sum Yau Wong (HKg) 21-17, 21-9.

Mixed doubles: Chen Cheng Kuan & Hsu Yin-Hui (Tai) bt Dhruv Kapil and Tanisha Crasto 21-16, 21-11.

REPAYING THE FAITH

Captain and coach showed confidence in my bowling: Dube

AFP

After claiming three scalps in India's easy win over UAE in the Asia Cup, Shivam Dube was pleased that his work with the ball behind the scenes brought rewards. "The captain and coach had told me that I will be getting to bowl here. They gave me confidence. I have been working on my bowling for quite some time, and I was ready."

DIFFERENT LEAGUE

India's skill level was too high for us, admits UAE coach Rajput

AP

The UAE coach Lalchand Rajput said India's bowling attack was too good for their batters in the Asia Cup fixture on Wednesday. "It was a good wicket, but the skill level that India's bowlers have, they will always find help anywhere. Our batters have never played such bowlers. We should have batted 20 overs nevertheless," he said.

MOVERS AND STAYER

Bishnoi, Arshdeep and Axar climb a spot; Varun remains at No. 4

FILE PHOTO: B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi, *right in pic,* and left-arm seamer Arshdeep Singh moved to the sixth and 10th spots in the latest ICC T20I rankings released on Wednesday. While Varun Chakaravarthy remains the highest-ranked Indian bowler at No. 4, the trio of Bishnoi, Arshdeep and Axar Patel (13th) went up by a spot each.

STELLAR SHOW

Titans end home leg with a win over Mumba; Paltan beat Yoddhas

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

It was an impressive finish to the Visakhapatnam leg for the home side Telugu Titans, which secured a 45-37 win over U Mumba on Wednesday. Bharat Hooda led the charge with 13 points, while Chetan Sahu (six) and skipper Vijay Malik (five) played strong supporting roles. Puneri Paltan downed UP Yoddhas 43-32.

Kuldeep magic floors UAE, sets up facile win for India

The left-arm wrist spinner's four for seven hastens the end after a bright start from the openers; Dube chips in with a three-wicket haul; Abhishek's 16-ball 30 takes the Men in Blue home in 4.3 overs

ASIA CUP

Vivek Krishnan
DUBAI

In the minutes leading up to the toss in India's opening Asia Cup fixture against United Arab Emirates on Wednesday, Jasprit Bumrah, Arshdeep Singh, Varun Chakaravarthy, Shivam Dube and Hardik Pandya could all be spotted marking their run-ups.

As Kuldeep Yadav went about bowling to a single stump on an adjacent pitch in the meantime, it momentarily gave the impression that the left-arm wrist-spinner may miss out for the sake of the balance of the side. Just as he had done all through India's five-Test assignment in England.

Rolling them over

The UAE would have certainly wished for that to be the case at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium, for Kuldeep went on to not just play but also claim four scalps as the Muhammad Waseem-led side rolled over for 57 in 13.1 overs in a nine-wicket defeat.

By including the 30-year-old spinner from Uttar Pradesh alongside Varun, Suryakumar Yadav and Co. chose to opt for just one specialist pacer in Bumrah and leave out Arshdeep. The paltry target was knocked off by the Men in Blue in 4.3 overs. While Abhishek Sharma pummelled a 16-ball 30 in the chase, the winning runs were hit by opening partner Shubman Gill.

Good beginning

The game seemed to begin encouragingly for the UAE with opener Alishan Sharafu smashing three fours and a six. Twice in the opening over, delivered by a blonde-haired Hardik, Sharafu slashed through the off-side.

When Bumrah erred ever so slightly in line in the second over, he flicked towards fine leg for another four. Particularly striking was the inside-out drive over extra-cover that he nailed off Axar Patel's left-arm spin for a maximum.

It helped the UAE race to 25 for no loss after three overs before Bumrah sprinkled his magic touch on proceedings.

In an over that began with a couple of off-cutters, the fourth delivery was a pinpoint yorker at searing velocity that clattered the base of the stumps well before the 22-year-old rookie could bring his bat down. It would have made batters far more accomplished than Sharafu look just as silly. Just as the Indian fans settled back into their seats, Muhammad Zohaib also made the long walk back to the dressing room.

The southpaw at No. 3 skied a slider from Varun to Kuldeep at backward point.

Once Kuldeep was introduced into the attack at the end of the PowerPlay, the UAE stumbled into a deeper hole. In his second over, the left-armer struck thrice.

While Rahul Chopra picked out Gill at long-on with a big shot, Waseem fell leg-before wicket to a quicker delivery from Kuldeep. Next in Kuldeep's list of victims was left-hand batter Harshit Kaushik who chopped a wrong 'un onto his stumps.

There was simply no contest thereafter. Dube capitalised on the opportunity to get some overs under his belt and bolster his confidence, scalping Asif Khan, Dhruv Parashar and Junaid Siddique with his medium-pace for figures of 2-0-4-3.

Axar, too, got into the act when he trapped fellow left-arm spinner Simranjeet Singh leg-before.

Kuldeep, rather fittingly, took the final wicket of tailender Haider Ali.

Once Kuldeep was introduced into the attack at the end of the PowerPlay, the UAE stumbled into a deeper hole. In his second over, the left-armer struck thrice

Perfect day: Kuldeep wreaked havoc after Bumrah nailed Sharafu with a yorker. Dube then joined the party. AFP & PTI

SCOREBOARD

UAE
Alishan Sharafu b Bumrah 22 *(17b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Muhammad Waseem lbw b Kuldeep 19 *(22b, 3x4)*, Muhammad Zohaib c Kuldeep b Varun 2 *(5b)*, Rahul Chopra c Gill b Kuldeep 3 *(7b)*, Asif Khan c Samson b Dube 2 *(7b)*, Harshit Kaushik b Kuldeep 2 *(2b)*, Dhruv Parashar lbw b Dube 1 *(7b)*, Simranjeet Singh lbw b Axar 1 *(5b)*, Haider Ali c Samson b Kuldeep 1 *(2b)*, Junaid Siddique c Suryakumar b Dube 0 *(3b)*, Muhammad Rohid (not out) 2 *(2b)*; Extras (w-2): 2; Total (in 13.1 overs): 57.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-26 (Sharafu, 3.4 overs), 2-29 (Zohaib, 4.4), 3-47 (Chopra, 8.1), 4-48 (Waseem, 8.4), 5-50 (Kaushik, 8.6), 6-51 (Asif, 10.3), 7-52 (Simranjeet, 11.2), 8-54 (Parashar, 12.1), 9-55 (Siddique, 12.4).

INDIA BOWLING
Hardik 1-0-10-0, Bumrah 3-0-19-1, Axar 3-0-13-1, Varun 2-0-4-1, Kuldeep 2.1-0-7-4, Dube 2-0-4-3.

INDIA
Abhishek Sharma c Haider b Siddique 30 *(16b, 2x4, 3x6)*, Shubman Gill (not out) 20 *(9b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Suryakumar Yadav (not out) 7 *(2b, 1x6)*; Extras (w-3): 3; Total (for one wkt. in 4.3 overs): 60.

FALL OF WICKET
1-48 (Abhishek, 3.5).

UAE BOWLING
Haider 1-0-10-0, Rohid 1-0-15-0, Parashar 1-0-13-0, Siddique 1-0-16-1, Simranjeet 0.3-0-6-0.

Toss: India.
PoM: Kuldeep.
India won by nine wickets with 93 balls to spare.
India's next match: Sept. 14
vs. Pakistan, Dubai, 8 p.m. IST.

Today's match

BAN vs HK

Abu Dhabi, 8 p.m. IST

HEAD-TO-HEAD T20Is
Played: **1**
Bangladesh **0** | Hong Kong **1**

LIVE ON SONY SPORTS TEN 5 (SD & HD) & LIV

Batting paradise expected as Central takes on South

DULEEP TROPHY FINAL

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

The first two rounds of the Duleep Trophy held at the BCCI CoE grounds on the outskirts of the city meandered along without much impetus.

Struggling for relevance

Played without fanfare behind closed doors, in a legacy tournament struggling for relevance, the action on batting-friendly pitches oftentimes fell flat.

Now set for the final between South Zone and Central Zone (commencing here on Thursday), the absence of key players has taken the sheen away from what should have been a grand occasion.

On account of being picked for the India-A team to face Australia-A, batters N. Jagadeesan and Devdutt Padikkal will miss this outing for South Zone.

Central will have to make do without pacers Khaleel Ahmed and Yash Thakur, and all-rounder Harsh Dubey.

Manav Suthar, who was not part of the XI in the semifinal against West Zone, will also be away on India-A duty. South skipper Mohammed Azharuddeen is likely to don the wicketkeeping gloves in place of Jagadeesan.

The conundrum: Skippers Patidar and Azharuddeen will have key players missing in their rosters due to their national commitments. FILE PHOTOS: K. MURALI KUMAR & NIRMAL HARINDRAN

Azharuddeen, who made only 11 in the high-scoring semifinal against North Zone, stated that he was happy that Jagadeesan and Devdutt have been rewarded for their consistency.

"I am really happy for them, because Jaggi (Jagadeesan) has been doing really well for the last two to three years," Azharuddeen said.

With the BCCI CoE Ground (1) yielding a total of nearly 2,300 runs in the two matches held thus far, another run feast is on the cards.

Simple plan

Saddle up and rack up a mammoth score - this is the simple plan of action.

"We are playing with seven batters. This is an advantage because Bengaluru pitches always favour the batters. We want to keep it simple. Whether you bat first or second, we just want to put up a huge score," Azharuddeen added.

India's Nupur, Jaismine assured of medals

Nupur defeated Oltinoy, while Jaismine beat Khumorabonu.

BOXING WORLDS

Sports Bureau

Paris Olympian Jaismine Lamboria (57kg) and Nupur Sheoran (80+kg) booked berths in the semifinals to ensure medals for India at the World boxing championships in Liverpool on Wednesday.

Jaismine outshone Uzbekistan's Khumorabonu Mamajonova 5-0 in the quarterfinals. Nupur, who got a first-round bye, defeated another Uzbek Oltinoy Sotimboeva 4-1 in the last-eight stage. However, two-time World champion Nikhat Zareen (51kg) lost 0-5 to Turkiye's double Olympics silver medallist and a former World champion Buse Naz in the last eight.

Jaismine will take on Venezuelan Omailyn Alcala, while Nupur will meet Turkiye's Seyma Duztas next. Jaismine beat Khumorabonu with her counter-punching skills.

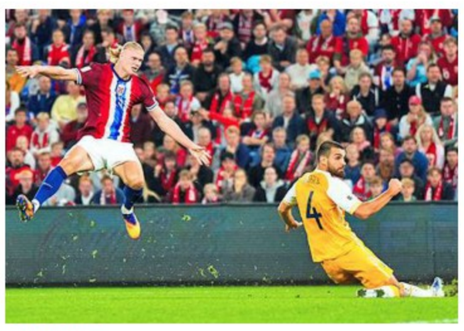
Nupur used her jabs to win the first round 4-1 despite clinching from both boxers. The Uzbek bounced back against the Indian, who fell twice due to messy tussles, before both were penalised a point apiece in the third round. But Nupur won the contest amid chaotic action.

Nikhat showed aggression, but Buse Naz, despite a point deduction for holding in the second round, gave a masterclass of counter-punching as she moved back to land right hooks and won a unanimous decision.

On Tuesday, Minakshi (48kg), Jadumani Singh (50kg) and Abhinash Jamwal (65kg) won their respective bouts with an identical 5-0 verdict to reach the quarters. Jugnoo (85kg) lost to Scotland's Robert William McNulty 0-5.

WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

Goal machine: Diaz fired in four as Colombia roared back to defeat Venezuela. AFP



Relentless: Norway's Haaland smashed five past a hapless Moldova in an 11-1 win. REUTERS

Bolivia stuns Brazil, advances to playoff

Miguel Terceros scored from a penalty in the first half as Bolivia downed Brazil 1-0 on Tuesday in South American qualifying which, combined with Colombia's win over Venezuela, helped the Bolivians advance to the playoff tournament for the 2026 World Cup.

Terceros converted in the 45th minute for the Bolivians who defeated Brazil at home for the first time since 2019.

The playoff tournament will involve six nations and will be played in March's international window to decide the last two spots for the World Cup.

Also on Tuesday, Enner Valencia scored on a penalty kick late in the first half as Ecuador defeated reigning champion Argentina 1-0. The 35-year-old Valencia converted in the 45th minute for the Ecuadorians, who finished second in the South American standings with 29 points behind the Argentinians' 38.

Statement win for England; France, Portugal dodge upsets

England sent out a warning to its World Cup rivals with a 5-0 thrashing of Serbia, while Erling Haaland scored five as Norway emphatically maintained its 100-percent record. Elsewhere in Europe, Portugal and France overturned deficits to make it back-to-back wins. Norway produced the perfect response to second-placed Italy's dramatic 5-4 victory over Israel on Monday with a 11-1 thumping of Moldova.

France held on with 10 men to beat Iceland 2-1 after coming from behind thanks to a goal and assist from Kylian Mbappe.

Portugal clinched a 3-2 win over Hungary at the Puskas Arena.

The results: South America: Bolivia 1 (Terceros 45-pen) bt Brazil 0; Venezuela 3 (Segovia 3, Martinez 12, Rondon 76) lost to Colombia 6 (Diaz 42, 50, 59, 67, Yerry Mina 10, Cordoba 75); Ecuador 1 (45-pen) bt Argentina 0; Uruguay 0 drew with Chile 0; Peru 0 lost to Paraguay 1 (Galarza 78).

Europe: Group D: Azerbaijan 1 (Makhmudov 72-pen) drew with Ukraine 1 (Sudakov 51); France 2 (Mbappe 45-pen, Barcola 62) bt Iceland 1 (A. Gudjohnsen 21).

Group F: Armenia 2 (Spertsyan 45+1-pen, Ranos 51) bt Ireland 1 (Ferguson 57); Hungary 2 (Varga 21, 84) lost to Portugal 3 (Silva 36, Ronaldo 58-pen, Cancelo 86).

Group H: Cyprus 2 (Loizou 29, Charalampous) drew with Romania 2 (Dragus 2, 18); Bosnia 1 (Dzeko 50) lost to Austria 2 (Sabitzer 49, Laimer 65).

Group I: Norway 11 (Myrhe 6, Haaland 11, 36, 43, 52, 83, Odegaard 45+1, Aasgaard 67, 76, 79-pen, 90+1) bt Moldova 1 (Ostigard 74-og).

Group K: Serbia 0 lost to England 5 (Kane 33, Madueke 35, Konsa 52, Guehi 75, Rashford 90-pen); Albania 1 (Asllani 25-pen) bt Latvia 0.

Adheer scalps eight to restrict KSCA XI

CRICKET

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

Madhya Pradesh off-spinner Adheer Pratap Singh (eight for 48) ran through the KSCA XI batting on the second day of their KSCA-Dr. (Capt.) K. Thimmappiah Memorial tournament match at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Wednesday. The two other wickets were taken by pacer Aryan Pandey.

Adheer's big haul helped MPCA dismiss KSCA XI for 138 and grab a handy first-innings lead. In reply, MPCA moved to 150 for four to establish an overall lead of 174 runs.

In another match, fast bowler M. Venkatesh (five for 28) and spinner Abhishek Ahlawat (four for 65) starred for KSCA Secretary's XI against Assam CA. Venkatesh and Ahlawat dismissed Assam CA for 140, giving their side the innings lead. Only Riyan Parag (39 and 4/106) came good for the visitor.

At Mysuru, Ankit Kalsi's 187 powered Himachal Pradesh to a commanding 447 for six against Baroda CA.

The scores:

At Bengaluru: Madhya Pradesh CA 162 & 150/4 in 46 overs (Harsh Gawli 40, Yash Dubey 46, Harshit Yadav 34 batting) vs. KSCA XI 138 in 44.3 overs (K.L. Shrijith 34, Adheer Pratap Singh 8/48).

Gujarat CA 262 in 102.5 overs (Aarya Desai 51, Manan Hingrajia 90, Irfan Umair 3/46, Himanshu Singh 3/72) vs. Mumbai CA 222/6 in 75 overs (Akhil Herwadkar 37, Siddhesh Lad 30, Suryansh Shedge 34, Aakash Anand 31, J. Vishal 3/57).

KSCA Secretary's XI 315 in 98.5 overs (Lochan Gowda 59, Kruthik Krishna 72, Madhav Bajaj 63, Mukhter Hussain 4/64, Riyan Parag 4/106) vs. Assam CA 140 in 36.5 overs (S. Akash 42, Riyan Parag 39, M. Venkatesh 5/28, Abhishek Ahlawat 4/65) & 54/2 in 33.1 overs.

Maharashtra 136 & 127/2 in 43 overs (K. Yash 65 batting, Digvijay Patil 41 batting) vs. Goa CA 333 in 90.3 overs (T. Abhinav 77, Darshan Misal 61, Mohit Redkar 58, Arjun Tendulkar 36 n.o., Nikit Dhumal 4/43).

Vidarbha CA 383 in 110.5 overs (Atharva Taide 170, M. Aman 60, Shivam Deshmukh 85, Yash Kadam 33, Adhoksh 4/96, S. Achar 3/96) vs. KSCA President's XI 191/7 in 57 overs (S.U. Karthik 82, Sharath Srinivas 51, Lalit Yadav 3/37).

Tripura CA 314 in 113.5 overs (Ghosh Roy 63, Bikram Debnath 74, Subham Ghosh 43, T. Shashank 3/69) vs. Chhattisgarh State Cricket Sangh 169/1 in 55 overs (Rishabh Tiwari 58, Anuj Tiwari 90 batting).

At Mysuru: Himachal Pradesh 447/6 in 149 overs (Ankush Bains 109, Ankit Kalsi 187, Ekant Sen 72, Mahesh Pithiya 3/110) vs. Baroda CA.

KSCA Colts 450 in 106.5 overs (K.P. Karthikeya 115, Sanjay Ashwin 115, Mohsin Khan 56, Sai Teja 3/104) vs. Andhra CA 168/6 in 53 overs (Ashwin Hebbar 84).

LIVE TELECAST

PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 8 p.m.

Asia Cup: Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 8 p.m.

Praveen determined to claim World title in front of home fans

The Paralympics and Asian Games high jump champion is also targeting a personal best

PARA ATHLETICS

Uthra Ganesan
NEW DELHI

A double Olympic medallist and Asian record holder, Praveen Kumar will be one of the home favourites at the upcoming World Para Athletics Championships later this month.

And the 22-year old high jumper is keen to add the one gold his cabinet is missing.

Starting his competitive journey with silver at the Junior World Championships in 2019, Praveen – who has a short leg and competes in the T64 category – followed it up with silver at the Tokyo Paralympics, gold medal at the Asian Games and bronze medal at the World Championships in 2023 and gold at the Paris Paralympic Games, setting a new Asian record and personal best of 2.08m in the process.

Double goal: Praveen wants to snare the elusive gold in a record time. GETTY IMAGES

Praveen had to switch from the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium – venue for the World Championships – to the Thyagaraj Complex due to relaying of the track and then to the Vinod Nagar Sports Complex for the same reason.

"There was a little problem moving training bases but it's okay now. We have been told that the Nehru Stadium will be open from the 15th. That should give us enough time," he explained.

He will have friends and family watching him compete for the first time ever.

Winning gold at home will be special, he admitted. "I have to break my personal record (2.08m) here and I am confident of doing it. When over 1.5 lakh people give respect to your National Flag and Anthem, you feel a pride that cannot be described.

"That pride has always been my driving force. Now I want that at home also," he concluded.

Magnetic primed to deliver in feature

MYSURU: Magnetic, who has been well tuned, is expected to score in the Dennis & Yvonne Jarvis Memorial Cup (1,600m), the main event of the races to be held here on Thursday (Sept 11).

False rails (width about 5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 SHIVAKASHI PLATE (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 5-y-o & over, 2-00 p.m.: 1. Just Blues (4) Arvind K 60, 2. The Angel Power (8) Ramesh K 59.5, 3. Article Fifteen (5) A. Baandal 58, 4. Fashionista (2) Pavan 57.5, 5. Eye The Mind (3) S. Imran 57, 6. Knotty Methods (10) Gautam Raj 55.5, 7. Polar Queen (9) Faiz 54.5, 8. Dark Chocolate (6) Ayaz Khan 52.5, 9. Arigato (1) Salman Khan 52 and 10. City Of Hustle (7) Hasib Alam 51.
1. JUST BLUES, 2. ARIGATO, 3. FASHIONISTA

2 M.S.SURESH MEMORIAL TROPHY (DIV. II), (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 2-30: 1. Natural Warrior (7) Ankit Pal 60, 2. Klimt (8) Dhanu S 58, 3. Dabeet (6) Hasib Alam 57.5, 4. Vardaan (3) Rajesh K 57.5, 5. Flashing Famous (9) S. Imran 57, 6. Polar Wind (5) Faiz 57, 7. IL Volo (4) Vivek 55, 8. Sapient (2) Abhishek Mhatre 55 and 9. True Punch (1) Antony 55.
1. TRUE PUNCH, 2. KLIMT, 2. IL VOLO

3 REGENCY GOLD PLATE (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 3-00: 1. Absolute Ruler (8) Aleemuddin 60, 2. Abnegator (7) Gagandeep Maan 56, 3. Meghann (6) Laxman S 54.5, 4. Noble Cause (11) L.A. Rozario 54.5, 5. Nizbati Queen (10) Abhishek Mhatre 54, 6. Glory Of Heaven (5) Faiz 53.5, 7. Golden Beast (3) A. Ramu 53.5, 8. Golden Stride (1) N.B. Kuldeep 53.5, 9. Grey Impact (9) Vinod Shinde 53.5, 10. Wild Child (2) H. Rahul 53.5, 11. Chisox (4) A. Hangal 53 and 12. D Don King (12) S. Imran 52.5.
1. NOBLE CAUSE, 2. ABSOLUTE RULER, 2. MEGHANN

4 M.S. SURESH MEMORIAL TROPHY (DIV. I), (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 3-30: 1. Power Of Beauty (3) Antony 62, 2. Amazing Imrarifa (8) H. Rahul 58.5, 3 Serdar (7) L.A. Rozario 58, 4. Miraculous Girl (5) Gautam Raj 57.5, 5. Malet Spring (2) Dhanu S 57, 6. Eternal Glory (4) Trevor 55, 7. Ladylion (6) R. Robert 55 and 8. Free To Play (1) C. Umesh 54.5.
1. POWER OF BEAUTY, 2. ETERNAL GLORY, 3. FREE TO PLAY

5 DENNIS & YVONNE JARVIS MEMORIAL CUP (1,600m), rated 60 & above, 4-00: 1. Kanya Rashi (7) Antony 60, 2. Magnetic (1) Trevor 60, 3. Confident Game (3) Hindu S 59.5, 4. Forseti (8) L.A. Rozario 59.5, 5. Midsummer Star (5) R. Shiva K 58.5, 6. Nevada Gold (2) Ankit Pal 55, 7. Tignanello (6) Mukesh K 55 and 8. Worldly Wise (4) Abhishek Mhatre 53.5.
1. MAGNETIC, 2. KANYA RASHI, 3. FORSETI

6 REGENCY GOLD PLATE (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 4-30: 1. Biometric (8) Ayaz Khan 62.5, 2. Blue Origin (4) Hasib Alam 62.5, 3. D Roman Power (11) A. Baandal 61.5, 4. Dufy (10) Vivek 61.5, 5. Moana (7) Pavan 61.5, 6. Augusto (6) A. Hangal 61, 7. Mark One (3) Prabhu K 61, 8. Ziva (5) Suhas K 59.5, 9. Able One (2) Asirvatham 58.5, 10. Martino (1) R. Ravi 58.5, 11. Golden Bird (9) Salman Khan 58 and 12. The One And Only (12) Vinod Shinde 55.
1. ZIVA, 2. ABLE ONE, 3. MOANA

7 TALAKADA PLATE (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 5-00: 1. One Diamond (1) Faiz 61.5, 2. Felicita (6) Pavan 61, 3. Planet Super (10) Salman Khan 60, 4. Kallania (2) M. Prabhakaran 58, 5. Astapor (11) Gagandeep Maan 57.5, 6. Truth In Wine (3) Siddaraju P 57.5, 7. Cloudy Hills (9) Mukesh K 57, 8. Eagle Bluff (5) Hasib Alam 57, 9. Gimme (4) A. Baandal 56, 10. Break Away (12) Abhishek Mhatre 53.5, 11. Money Exchange (7) Ayaz Khan 53.5 and 12. Sarvottam (8) C. Umesh 53.
1. CLOUDY HILLS, 2. EAGLE BLUFF, 3. MONEY EXCHANGE
Day's best: **TRUE PUNCH**
Double: **MAGNETIC – ZIVA**
Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Mini Jkt: 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

SNAPSHOTS

Indian women's recurve team falls short

GWANGJU (KOREA): The Indian recurve women's team, consisting of Deepika Kumari, Anikta Bhakat and 15-year-old rookie Gatha Khadake, lost to top-ranked Olympic champion Korea, comprising An San, Lim Sihyeon and Kang Chaeyoung, 3-5 (51-54, 57-57, 57-54, 56-58) in the bronze medal to finish fourth at the World archery championships on Wednesday.

The results: Recurve: Individual: Men: Neeraj Chauhan lost to Bekzod Boborajabov (Uzb) 0-6 (1st round); Rahul bt Vladyslav Lisniak (Ukr) 6-5 (shoot-off: 9-8) (1st round), bt Ilfat Abdullin (Kaz) 6-4 (2nd round), lost to Aleksandre Machavariani (Geo) 5-6 (shoot-off: 8-10) (3rd round); B. Dhiraj lost to Mete Gazoz (Tur) 2-6 (1st round).

Team: Women: Bronze medal match: India (Deepika Kumari, Ankita Bhakat, Gatha Khadake) lost to Korea (An San, Lim Sihyeon, Kang Chaeyoung) 3-5.

Double delight for TN in National jr. basketball

LUDHIANA: The Tamil Nadu boys' and girls' teams bagged the titles in the 75th National junior basketball in Ludhiana on Tuesday. In the boys' final, Tamil Nadu overcame host Punjab 81-76 while in the girls' title clash, Tamil Nadu beat Gujarat 100-85. The winners took home ₹3 lakh and the runners-up got ₹2 lakh. Rajasthan boys and Maharashtra girls finished third.

Samrat misses air pistol final

NINGBO: Samrat Rana shot 582 and missed the final owing to a lesser number of inner-10s after being tied with Vahid Golkhandan of Ireland in men's air pistol in the World Cup on Wednesday.

Qualification topper Hu Kai (589) of China beat compatriot You Changjie by 0.8 points for the gold.

The results:

10m air pistol:

Men: 1. Hu Kai (Chn) 242.3 (589); 2. You Changjie (Chn) 241.5 (585); 3. Jason Solari (Sui) 220.4 (584); 10. Samrat Rana 582; 28. Amit Sharma (576); 42. Nishant Rawat 568; **RPO:** Anmol Jain 578; Ujjawal Malik 577.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Rajajinagar Cricketers and Palar SC share title

Rajajinagar Cricketers and Palar SC were declared joint champions as the final of the KSCA women's league was washed out due to rain.

The scores:

Rajajinagar Cricketers 175 in 40.5 overs (Roshini Kiran 43, Niki Prasad 58, Kandi Kuppa Kashvi 3/31, Vrinda Dinesh 6/24) drew with Palar Sports Club, Kolar 74/2 in 13.1 overs (Vrinda Dinesh 33). *Match called off due to rain.*

Narrow win for Bengaluru FC

Bengaluru FC edged out Rebels FC 2-1 in the KSFA Super Division football league on Wednesday.

The results:

United Stars FC 2 (P. Swamy 35, Rajil Saji 79) drew with FC Real Bengaluru 2 (S. Sanjay 20, Syed Ahmed 39); BFC 2 (Arbash 62, K.P. Shamnad 90) bt Rebels FC 1 (D. Heiwanbha 35).

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